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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	483	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	21. 4. 1874	196-..

Not to be folded or roughly handled

CONFIDENTIAL.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
21st April 1874.

No. 483.

No. 159.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AT COLOMBO,

Separate Revenue, No. 9.

Customs.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Secretary Carmichael's letter, dated 19th December last, No. 1,461, on the subject of opium-smuggling between the Madras Presidency and Ceylon, I am directed by the

Governor in Council to seek the assistance of His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon in realizing the fines which have been imposed by the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, on several of the smugglers whose places of abode are in Ceylon.

2. The Madras Board of Revenue have, on appeal, confirmed the penalty inflicted in one of these cases.

3. The first case in which the Collector took action was that of the dhony *Annalaksmi* plying between Point Pedro and Madras. This vessel, under command of Tindal C. Canavathy Pillai, conveyed opium, worth Rupees 18,860, to Ceylon in 1872, and one K. Vyravey passed the opium through the Custom-house. For this offence K. Vyravey has been sentenced to a fine of Rupees 10,000. He absconded without paying, but property valued at Rupees 2,000 has been seized in part satisfaction. Subsequent proof having been obtained that he was the Gumastah of Poonier Chittambaram of Point Pedro, the real owner of the opium so smuggled, the latter individual was fined Rupees 56,000 (Section 24, Act VI. of 1863). Here again 4,000 Rupees worth of property has been distrained in part realization of the penalty.

4. In the next case, it was ascertained, through the Government Agent at Jaffna, that 80 purses of opium had been smuggled in the *Kaverilaksmi* in the same year. Of these, 34 purses (876 lbs. valued at Rupees 8,760) were consigned to K. Kadergamer, owner of the dhony, and were cleared by himself. The remaining 46 purses (1,201 lbs. valued at Rupees 12,010) were consigned to and cleared by one A. Tanmer. Those individuals were fined respectively Rupees 20,000 and Rupees 36,000, and notices sent them through the Government Agent and Collector of Customs, Jaffna, but declined by them. The dhony was, in the meantime, distrained under a warrant issued by a Magistrate under Section 225, Act VI. of 1863.

5. In a third case, one Vyramoothoo Coomarsamy, a wealthy inhabitant of Valucttooray, a subordinate port of Jaffna, has been fined Rupees 77,000, being three times the value of the opium (103 purses) smuggled by him in September and October last from Tondy, a port in the Madura District.

6. It will be obvious to His Excellency that, as these persons have their residence and property in Ceylon, the smuggling operations in which they have been engaged cannot be adequately dealt with, unless efficient aid is afforded by the Government of Ceylon. Reliable information has been received that several individuals, who have been in the habit of smuggling opium from Madras during the past few years, are making arrangements to transfer their property to their relatives,

and to alter the size, tonnage, and names of their dhonies, in order to prevent their being seized in satisfaction of fines.

7. I am, therefore, to ask that you will move your Government to take such action for the recovery of the fines above described, and generally for the punishment and repression of smuggling, as to your legal advisers may appear most feasible.

8. Should there be no law under which these fines can be levied, I am to suggest, for consideration, that an Act should be passed expressly rendering such penalties recoverable in Ceylon. It is hardly necessary to point to the obvious expediency of concerted action in such a matter between the Governments of British India and Ceylon.

9. I am, finally, to request a reply to the concluding paragraph of this Office letter, dated 19th December last, No. 1,461.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Acting Secretary to Government.

6061. of 1874 30/10/75.

REVENUE.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY
AT COLOMBO.

Dated April 21st.

Recd.

Actd.

Letter 21st April 1874, No. 483.

APRIL.
No. 159.

Solicits assistance in recovering the fines imposed by Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, on certain opium smugglers resident in Ceylon, and in punishing and repressing smuggling generally: also requests reply to last paragraph of letter No. 1461 of 19th December 1873.

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 (3) Initials of the Referencer.....*Ch*

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	483	Press
B.P. No.	~~483~~	Mis.
Dated	21. 4. 1974	196

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
21st April 1874.

No. 483.

No. 159.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AT COLOMBO,

Separate Revenue, No. 9.

Customs.

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Governor in Council to seek the assistance of His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon in realizing the fines which have been imposed by the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, on several of the smugglers whose places of abode are in Ceylon.

2. The Madras Board of Revenue have, on appeal, confirmed the penalty inflicted in one of these cases.

3. The first case in which the Collector took action was that of the dhony *Annalaksmi* plying between Point Pedro and Madras. This vessel, under command of Tindal C. Canavathy Pillai, conveyed opium, worth Rupees 18,860, to Ceylon in 1872, and one K. Vyravey passed the opium through the Custom-house. For this offence K. Vyravey has been sentenced to a fine of Rupees 10,000. He absconded without paying, but property valued at Rupees 2,000 has been seized in part satisfaction. Subsequent proof having been obtained that he was the Gumastah of Poonier Chittambaram of Point Pedro, the real owner of the opium so smuggled, the latter individual was fined Rupees 56,000 (Section 24, Act VI. of 1863). Here again 4,000 Rupees worth of property has been distrained in part realization of the penalty.

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5. In a third case, one Vyramoothoo Coomarsamy, a wealthy inhabitant of Valuettooray, a subordinate port of Jaffna, has been fined Rupees 77,000, being three times the value of the opium (103 purses) smuggled by him in September and October last from Tondy, a port in the Madura District.

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and to alter the size, tonnage, and names of their dhonies, in order to prevent their being seized in satisfaction of fines.

7. I am, therefore, to ask that you will move your Government to take such action for the recovery of the fines above described, and generally for the punishment and repression of smuggling, as to your legal advisers may appear most feasible.

8. Should there be no law under which these fines can be levied, I am to suggest, for consideration, that an Act should be passed expressly rendering such penalties recoverable in Ceylon. It is hardly necessary to point to the obvious expediency of concerted action in such a matter between the Governments of British India and Ceylon.

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(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Confidential

Revenue Dept. *21 April 74*
No. 483.

To

The Colonial Secretary,
Colombo.

Sir,

With reference to
Mr. Secretary Carmichael's
letter dated 19th December
last No. 1461 on the subject
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the Madras Presidency and
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realizing the fines which
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Collector of Sea Customs Madras
on several of the smugglers
whose ^{places of} abode are in Ceylon.

2. The Madras Board

MM
10/4

S. O. S.
20/4.

Colt. of 1874 *Madras.*

REVENUE.

To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY
AT COLOMBO.

Dated April 21st.

Recd.

Encl.

21st April 1874. No. 483.

APRIL
No. 159.

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certain opium smugglers resident in Ceylon, and
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Subsequent

Subsequent proof having been obtained that he was the Gumastah of Poonier Chittambaram of Point Pedro, the real owner of the opium so smuggled, the latter individual was fined Rs. 56,000. (Sec. 24 Act VI of 1863). Here again 4,000 Rs. worth of property has been distrained in part realization of the penalty.

4. In the next case it was ascertained through the Govt. Agent at Jaffna that 80 purses of opium had been smuggled in the Kaverilakom in the same year. Of these 34 purses (876 lbs valued at Rs. 8760) were consigned to K. Kadergama

owned

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been received that several
individuals who have
been in the habit of
Smuggling

smuggling opium from
Madras during the past
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of

of this office letter
dated 19 December
last, W 7461.

Y M

Depd in MS.
21 April '74.

Confidential
To
Colonial Secretary
Colonial
Director of Finance
Colonial Secretary

6 Copies printed
1. Colonial Secretary
1. Colonial Secretary
1. Colonial Secretary

C 10th April 1944 R 2nd April 1944