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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

~~B.P. No.~~

586

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

8-5-1876

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 60. Read the following letter from A. O. HUMPHREY, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Statistics,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, Ootacamund, dated Calcutta, 25th April 1876, Nos. 29/32:—

DURING the official year 1875-76 the transmission of the monthly returns of trade and navigation has necessarily been much delayed by the changes made in the forms, and the necessity that has existed for working up afresh the figures for past years, in addition to compiling those for the current year.

2. From the commencement of the official year 1876-77 these sources of delay will practically have ceased to exist, and I am earnestly to invite the co-operation of the Government of Madras in a strenuous effort to secure greater expedition in the transmission of future monthly returns.

3. In England the Board of Trade publish their returns on the eleventh day after the close of the month to which they refer. It is impossible to secure anything like this promptitude in the publication of our Indian returns, but at the same time it seems quite possible to issue them at a much earlier date than has hitherto been attained.

4. It may be explained that owing to the time occupied in transit and to other causes, the returns from the several provinces do not reach this department simultaneously. Under present arrangements this department is able to issue the monthly publication on the sixth day (including two days for the printing) after receipt of the latest set of provincial returns. But if, instead of being sent in in sets, each return is posted as soon as ready, it becomes possible to issue the compilation sooner, sometimes even on the second or third day after receipt of the last return.

5. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is very anxious that these monthly returns should issue not later than one month after the close of the period to which they refer; and he desires me to request that it may at once be carefully considered whether there is any insuperable obstacle to the invariable despatch of the last of the Madras returns on or before the 24th of the month following that to which they refer.

6. Some slight changes in postal arrangements may possibly be requisite in some provinces in the case of outlying ports; but if so, these should be arranged for and every practicable precaution taken to prevent the despatch of any of the forms being delayed later than the 24th of the month.

7. Of course, it is neither necessary nor desirable, as indicated in paragraph 4, that the whole of the forms should be despatched on the same date. Each form should be despatched directly it is ready, those that arrive early being compared, checked, and incorporated in this Office, whilst the receipt of the later ones is being awaited.

8. It is perhaps needless to point out that without the zealous co-operation of all the Governments concerned, nothing can be done. The delay of one single form by any one Government nullifies all the exertions made elsewhere, and His Excellency confidently trusts that special exertions will now be everywhere made to prevent any such delay and to secure that measure of despatch above indicated.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1876.

9. The following table shows for each month of 1875-76 the number of days subsequent to the close of the month to which they referred, on which the latest returns were respectively despatched and received by and from each province:—

MONTH.	BENGAL.		BOMBAY.		SIND.		BRITISH BURMA.		MADRAS.		Issue of monthly number by Government of India.
	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	
	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
April 1875	46	46	46	49	56	66	70	73	127	131	143
May "	73	72	41	44	46	55	66	73	117	121	133
June "	73	74	45	48	49	56	66	63	108	114	133
July "	94	95	43	46	42	50	40	45	98	106	131
August "	92	93	44	47	35	43	25	30	90	97	120
Sept. "	62	63	46	49	35	41	37	42	87	91	103
Octob. "	45	46	47	50	43	56	27	32	82	86	93
Nov. "	36	38	48	51	49	57	31	37	74	78	86
Dec. "	28	29	39	42	38	48	36	41	68	72	74
Jan. 1876	28	29	36	39	29	37	38	45	61	65	67
Feb. "	27	28	38	41	30	36	25	30	47	51	56
March "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

10. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has much pleasure in acknowledging the marked progress which the above table exhibits. His Excellency fully appreciates the efforts that have secured this material improvement, but he trusts that no Government will remain satisfied with these results, but will, on the contrary, carefully re-consider their arrangements so as to ensure the despatch in all cases of the last return by the 24th day at latest. Should this in any case prove after full consideration to be absolutely impracticable, I am to request that His Excellency may be favoured with a full explanation of the exact obstacle which has proved unsurmountable.

11. I am to take this opportunity of urging that greater care should be exercised in the preparation of the accounts than has hitherto been done in regard to some of the provincial returns. It is, of course, essential that all corrections which may be found necessary should be carried out locally, and that they should be reported in the prescribed errata statements, in order that the compilations of this department may be revised; but a great proportion of the very serious labour involved in carrying out the numerous revisions hitherto found requisite would most probably be rendered unnecessary if due attention were paid to the correct preparation of the returns in the first instance.

12. In conclusion, I am to request that, in future, in the monthly returns of trade commencing with those for April 1876-77, the following articles should be separately distinguished, viz.:—

I.—Under the head of "Chemical products and preparations"—

1. Alum ... Cwt.
2. Arsenic ... Cwt.
3. Copperas ... Cwt.
4. Sal Ammoniac ... Cwt.
5. Sulphur (Brimstone) ... Cwt.
6. Sulphuric Acid ... Cwt.
7. Other Sorts ... Value.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1876.

II.—Under the head of "Drugs and Medicines (excluding Chemicals)"—

1. Aloes ... Cwt.
2. Assafostida ... Cwt.
3. Camphor, viz.—
(a.) Bhimsaini or Baras... lbs.
(b.) Other kinds ... lbs.
4. Cassia Lignea ... Cwt.
5. Galangal ... Cwt.
6. Peruvian Bark ... lbs.
7. Quinine... lbs.
8. Other Sorts ... Value.

III.—Under "Dyeing and Colouring Materials" Saffron in cwts. should be shown separately as sub-head No. 7, after "Safflower," No. 8 being "Other Sorts."

IV.—Under "Provisions" the sub-heads will be as follows:—

1. Bacon and hams ... lbs.
2. Bêche de mer ... lbs.
3. Butter ... lbs.
4. Cheese ... lbs.
5. Fish maws, shark fins, singally and sozille... lbs.
6. Flour ... lbs.
7. Fruits and vegetables; dried, salted, or preserved. Cwt.
8. Ghee ... lbs.
9. Hog's lard ... lbs.
10. Salted Fish ... lbs.
11. Other sorts of provisions ... Cwt.

V.—Under the head of "Spices" should be shown—

1. Betelnuts ... lbs.
2. Cardamoms ... lbs.
3. Cassia ... lbs.
4. Cinnamon ... lbs.
5. Cloves ... lbs.
6. Ginger ... lbs.
7. Nutmegs... lbs.
8. Pepper ... lbs.
9. Turmeric... lbs.
10. Other Sorts ... lbs.

The figures for the additional articles now directed to be shown separately are not required to be furnished to this department for previous years.

A copy has been sent direct, to save time, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras.

No. 61. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1876, No. 586.

Separate Revenue, No. 7.

Customs.

THE attention of the Board of Revenue is called to the importance attached by the Government of India to the punctual submission of the Monthly Trade

Returns. It is observed that, although great improvement has been made in this

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th May 1876.*

Presidency, as shown in the statement appended to paragraph 9, it is still the latest as compared with other Provinces, and the present order requires that the returns should be sent in half the time taken for those for February, which shows the earliest date ever attained here. The Board will give their earnest attention to the subject, and report if there are any insuperable obstacles to the arrangement ordered by the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed),

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman,

Nos. 8-11C.

FROM

A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of India.

TO

*The Secretary to the
Report of the
Revenue Dept.,
Calcutta.*

Dept. of Revenue,
Agriculture, and Commerce.
Statistics.

Calcutta, the 25th April 1876.

SIR,

DURING the official year 1875-76, the transmission of the monthly returns of trade and navigation has necessarily been much delayed by the changes made in the forms, and the necessity that has existed for working up afresh the figures for past years, in addition to compiling those for the current year.

2. From the commencement of the official year 1876-77 these sources of delay will practically have ceased to exist and I am earnestly to invite the co-operation of the Government of India in a strenuous effort to secure greater expedition in the transmission of future monthly returns.

3. In England the Board of Trade publish their returns on the 11th day after the close of the month to which they refer. It is impossible to secure anything like this promptitude in the publication of our Indian returns, but at the same time it seems quite possible to issue them at a much earlier date than has hitherto been attained.

4. It may be explained that owing to the time occupied in transit and to other causes, the returns from the several provinces do not reach this Department simultaneously. Under present arrangements this Department is able to issue the monthly publication on the sixth day (including two days for the printing) after receipt of the latest set of provincial returns. But if, instead of being sent in in sets, each return is posted as soon as ready, it becomes possible to issue the compilation sooner, sometimes even on the second or third day after receipt of the last return.

5. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is very anxious that these monthly returns should issue not later than one month after the close of the period to which they refer, and he desires me to request that it may at once be carefully considered, whether there is any insuperable obstacle to the invariable despatch of the last of the *monthly* returns on or before the 24th of the month following that to which they refer.

6. Some slight changes in postal arrangements may possibly be requisite in some provinces, in the case of outlying ports; but if so, these should be arranged for and every practicable precaution taken to prevent the despatch of any of the forms being delayed later than the 24th of the month.

7. Of course it is neither necessary nor desirable, as indicated in paragraph 4, that the whole of the forms should be despatched on the same date. Each form should be despatched directly it is ready, those that arrive early being compared, checked and incorporated in this office, whilst the receipt of the later ones is being awaited.

8. It is perhaps needless to point out that without the zealous co-operation of all the Governments concerned, nothing can be done. The delay of one single form, by any one Government, nullifies all the exertions made elsewhere,

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated May, 8th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 8th May 1876, No. 686.

M.A.Y.

Nos. 60-61.

Monthly Trade Returns.—Directing attention of the Board of Revenue to the importance attached by the Government of India to the prompt submission of the —. Requesting them to give their earnest attention to the order requiring that the returns should be sent in half the time for those for February in this Presidency, and report if there are any insuperable obstacles to the arrangement ordered by the Government of India.

and His Excellency confidently trusts that special exertions will now be everywhere made to prevent any such delay and to secure that measure of despatch above indicated.

9. The following table shows for each month of 1875-76 the number of returns subsequent to the close of the month to which they referred, on which the returns were respectively despatched and received by and from each province:—

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March "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

10. His Excellency the Governor-General in Council has much pleasure in acknowledging the marked progress which the above table exhibits. His Excellency fully appreciates the efforts that have secured this material improvement, but he trusts that no Government will remain satisfied with these results, but will, on the contrary, carefully re-consider their arrangements so as to ensure the despatch in all cases of the last return by the 24th day at latest. Should this in any case prove after full consideration to be absolutely impracticable, I am to request that His Excellency may be favoured with a full explanation of the exact obstacle which has proved unarmountable.

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12. In conclusion I am to request that, in future, in the monthly returns of trade commencing with those for April 1876-77, the following articles should be separately distinguished, viz.:—

I.—Under the head of "Chemical products and preparations"—

1. Alum	...	Cwt.
2. Arsenic	...	Cwt.
3. Copperas	...	Cwt.
4. Sal Ammoniac	...	Cwt.
5. Sulphur (Brimstone)	...	Cwt.
6. Sulphuric Acid	...	Cwt.
7. Other Sorts	...	Value.

II.—Under the head of "Drugs and Medicines (excluding Chemicals)"—

1. Aloes	...	Cwt.
2. Assafoetida	...	Cwt.
3. Camphor, viz.—		
(a). Bhimsaini or Baras	...	lbs.
(b). Other kinds	...	lbs.
4. Cassia Lignea	...	Cwt.
5. Galangal	...	Cwt.
6. Peruvian Bark	...	lbs.
7. Quinine	...	lbs.
8. Other Sorts	...	Value.

III.—Under "Dyeing and colouring materials" Sal on in cwt. should be shewn separately as sub-head No. 7, and "S. flower," No. 8, being "Other Sorts."

IV.—Under "Provisions" the sub-heads will be as follows:—

1. Bacon and hams	...	lbs.
2. Bêche de mer	...	lbs.
3. Butter	...	lbs.
4. Cheese	...	lbs.
5. Fish maws, shark fins, singally and bozile	...	lbs.
6. Flour	...	lbs.
7. Fruits and vegetables; dried, salted or preserved	...	Cwt.
8. Ghee	...	lbs.
9. Hog's lard	...	lbs.
10. Salted Fish	...	lbs.
11. Other sorts of provisions	...	Cwt.

V.—Under the head of "Spices" should be shewn—

1. Betelnuts	...	lbs.
2. Cardamoms	...	lbs.
3. Cassia	...	lbs.
4. Cinnamon	...	lbs.
5. Cloves	...	lbs.
6. Ginger	...	lbs.
7. Nutmegs	...	lbs.
8. Pepper	...	lbs.
9. Turmeric	...	lbs.
10. Other Sorts	...	lbs.

The figures for the additional articles now directed to be shewn separately are not required to be furnished to this Department for previous years.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Bohannan
Secretary to the Government of India.

*A copy has been sent direct to Mr. ...
... to the Secy to the Board of
Revenue, Madras.*

10 copies

No. 8b

The attention of the Board of Revenue is called to the importance attached by the Government of India to the punctual submission of the monthly Trade Returns. It is observed that, although great improvement has been made in this Presidency, as shown in the statement appended to para 9, it is still the latest as compared with other Provinces, and the present order requires that the returns should be sent in half the time taken for those for February which shows the earliest date ever attained here. The Board will give their earnest attention to the subject, and report if there are any insuperable obstacles to the arrangements ordered by the Government of India.

8 May 1876

To the Secretary
14 To the Secretary
Des 19 May

13

6th May 76. R. 8. May

N. 1752

Revenue 1876. Department

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

STATISTICS.

Received by the
of Madras,
Revenue Dept.

Nos. 8-11C.

Dated Calcutta, the 25th April 1876.

Recd 4 May

SUBJECT.

The correct preparation of the monthly returns of trade and navigation, and their transmission in time for the issue of the monthly compilation by this Department within a month of the period to which it refers. Also the additional articles which require to be separately distinguished from 1st April 1876-77.

No 586-8 May 1876

Government Central Press.—No. 93, B., A., & C.—25-4-76.—100.

With Order