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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 761	Press
~~B.P. No.~~	Mis.

Dated 9-6-1876 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 72. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd May 1876, No. 1,332 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 7th January 1876, No. 36.

Read also the following replies :—

From the	Collector	of Ganjam,	dated	29th Mar.	1876,	No.	320.
,,	,,	of Vizagapatam,	,,	23rd ,,	,,	,,	—.
,,	,,	of ,,	,,	26th April	,,	,,	—.
,,	,,	of Nellore,	,,	18th Mar.	,,	,,	694.
,,	,,	of Bellary,	,,	24th Feb.	,,	,,	44.
,,	,,	of Chingleput,	,,	4th Mar.	,,	,,	143.
,,	,,	of North Arcot,	,,	11th ,,	,,	,,	110.
,,	,,	of South Arcot,	,,	10th Feb.	,,	,,	58.
,,	,,	of Tanjore,	,,	24th Mar.	,,	,,	1,239.
,,	,,	of Trichinopoly,	,,	22nd ,,	,,	,,	67.
,,	Commr.	of Nilgiris,	,,	17th Feb.	,,	,,	10.
,,	Collector	of Salem,	,,	4th May	,,	,,	104.

THE Government having in their Order of the 29th November 1875, No. 1,710, calling for a report on a complaint preferred by the arrack renters of the Coimbatore District, as to an undue increase in the number of toddy-shops to their prejudice, directed inquiry to be made regarding the position of affairs in the other districts worked on the same system, the Board called upon all Collectors of excise districts to furnish returns of the relative numbers of toddy and arrack shops open at the present time and at the expiration of the late contracts. The letters read above are their replies.

2. No complaints have reached the Board, except from Coimbatore and Salem, the papers connected with which have been already submitted to Government with the Proceedings read above, and a reference to the annexed general statement compiled from the returns furnished by Collectors shows that no valid ground for complaint exists, the number of existing toddy-shops being in every district, except three, less than the number open at the expiration of the last contract; in two out of those three, *viz.*, Ganjam and Vizagapatam, the increase is slight, and in the third, *viz.*, Nellore, the actual number of toddy-shops open under the former contract is not ascertainable. The Collector states that the number of arrack-shops has been taken as representing the number of toddy-shops, but 969 of the latter have been entered against 1,222 of the former. It does not appear that the maximum number sanctioned under the current leases has been exceeded, but particulars have not been furnished for some districts.

3. The Collector of Trichinopoly inquires whether additional toddy-shops may be allowed in places where there are no objections on administrative grounds without a proportionate increase in the rent, and, secondly, whether transfers of shops from one taluq to another where the same individual is the renter of both taluqs are permissible. The Board see no objections to transfers within the renter's farm when the Collector is satisfied that such transfers are proposed to meet the

demands of the toddy-consuming public; as regards permission to open additional shops in excess of the number fixed prior to sale of the farm, the Board gather the intention of the direction at the close of paragraph 1 of the order of Government of the 18th February 1876, No. 244, to be that no additions to the list, as fixed prior to sale, are to be allowed in future, and the Board have issued instructions to that effect in their Circular Memorandum, dated 23rd February 1876, No. 321. As there is a condition in the agreements executed by Arrack Contractors similar to the clause in the Toddy renters' agreement on which the order was based, the restriction must apply equally to arrack-shops. The Board had previously interpreted the clause as limiting the number of shops which the renter has a right to demand, but not precluding the Collector from authorizing the transfer of a shop from one place to another, or from licensing additional shops if such appear to be necessary. Some discretionary power seemed especially necessary at the commencement of the present leases owing to the separation of the toddy and arrack farms, and the difficulty of ascertaining the real requirements of the toddy consumers owing to the suppression of the consumption which formerly prevailed in some localities. The Board think that the Collectors might still be vested with discretionary power to sanction a moderate increase in the number of either arrack or toddy shops where they may deem it necessary in the interests of the public, the rights of rival contractors being duly considered and protected by appeal to the Board and Government. The orders of Government are requested on this point.

Board's Proceedings, dated 12th July 1875, No. 1,924.
Board's Proceedings, dated 30th September 1875, No. 2,738.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

District.	Number of Shops open at the expiration of the last Contracts.		Maximum sanctioned for Current Lease.		Number open at present.		Remarks.
	Arrack.	Toddy.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Arrack.	Toddy.	
Ganjam, exclusive of Maliahs.	943	253	1,600	.....	727	272	
Vizagapatam	548	604	657	995	387	609	
Nellore*...	1,222	969	.....	.....	1,088	1,118	* The number of toddy-shops under the old contract cannot be ascertained. The number of arrack-shops has, therefore, been taken as representing the number of toddy-shops, but the difference between Columns 2 and 3 is not explained. It is not clear whether the figures given for the current fasli refer to the sanctioned maxima or to the number of shops actully opened.
Chingleput	313	447	486	532	220	393	
Bellary Cantonment	64	64	.....	.....	63	63	
North Arcot	801	953	935	950	761	590	
South Arcot	797	316	.....	.....	863	351	
Tanjore	409	3,125	1,022	3,433	732	2,151	
Trichinopoly†...	462	133	437	148	489	148	† The list of arrack-shops was revised after the contract was concluded and the old list in force under the last lease revived with a few additions.
Salem	1,577	775	.....	.....	1,135	767	
Nilgiris	21	... ..	.....	.....	38	.....	

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th June 1876.

No. 73. ORDER THEREON, 9th June 1876, No. 761.

Separate Revenue, No. 11.
Abkari.

THE Government consider that any large increase in the number of shops over that fixed prior to the sale of the farms must lead to well-grounded complaints from rival contractors; but as the exact number fixed prior to sale cannot in all cases be rigidly conformed to, certain additions may be permitted on proper grounds being shown for them, and Collectors should be careful in the exercise of this discretion, the rival claims of arrack and toddy renters and the wants of the people being duly weighed in each case before sanctioning changes in the number of shops.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

District.	Number of Shops open at the expiration of the last contracts.		Maximum sanctioned for Current Lease.		Number open at present.		Remarks.
	Arrack.	Toddy.	Arrack.	Toddy.	Arrack.	Toddy.	
Ganjam, exclusive of Maliahs.	943	253	1,600	.....	727	272	
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Salem	1,577	775	.....	.....	1,135	767	
Nilgiris	21	... ..	.....	.....	38	.....	

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

Govt. of [1876] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June, 9th.

Encl. *Endr*

G.O., 9th June 1876, No. 761.

JUNE.

Nos. 72-75.

Arrack and Toddy Shops.—Considering that any large increase in the number of — over the fixed prior to the sale of the farms must lead to well-grounded complaints from rival contractors; and observing that Collectors should be careful in the exercise of the discretion vested in them, the rival claims of arrack and toddy renters and the wants of the people being duly weighed in each case before sanctioning changes in the number of shops.

No. 1,332.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 22nd May 1876.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 7th January 1876, No. 36.

Read also the following replies :—

From the Collector		of Ganjam,	dated	29th Mar.	1876, No.	320.
,,	,,	of Vizagapatam,	,,	23rd ,,	,, ,,	—.
,,	,,	of ,,	,,	26th April	,, ,,	—.
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,,	,,	of North Arcot,	,,	11th ,,	,, ,,	110.
,,	,,	of South Arcot,	,,	10th Feb.	,, ,,	58.
,,	,,	of Tanjore,	,,	24th Mar.	,, ,,	1,239.
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,,	Commr.	of Nilgiris,	,,	17th Feb.	,, ,,	10.
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THE Government having in their Order of the 29th November 1875, No. 1,710, calling for a report on a complaint preferred by the arrack renters of the Coimbatore District, as to an undue increase in the number of toddy-shops to their prejudice, directed inquiry to be made regarding the position of affairs in the other districts worked on the same system, the Board called upon all Collectors of excise districts to furnish returns of the relative numbers of toddy and arrack shops open at the present time and at the expiration of the late contracts. The letters read above are their replies.

2. No complaints have reached the Board, except from Coimbatore and Salem, the papers connected with which have been already submitted to Government with the Proceedings read above, and a reference to the annexed general statement compiled from the returns furnished by Collectors shows that no valid ground for complaint exists, the number of existing toddy-shops being in every district, except three, less than the number open at the expiration of the last contract; in two out of those three, viz., Ganjam and Vizagapatam, the increase is slight, and in the third, viz., Nellore, the actual number of toddy-shops open under the former contract is not ascertainable. The Collector states that the number of arrack-shops has been taken as representing the number of toddy-shops, but 969 of the latter have been entered against 1,222 of the former. It does not appear that the maximum number sanctioned under the current leases has been exceeded, but particulars have not been furnished for some districts.

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to the clause in the Toddy renters' agreement on which the order was based, the restriction must apply equally to arrack-shops. The Board had previously interpreted the clause as limiting the number of shops which the renter has a right to demand, but not precluding the Collector from authorizing the transfer of a shop from one place to another, or from licensing additional shops if such appear to be necessary. Some discretionary power seemed especially necessary at the commencement of the present leases owing to the separation of the toddy and arrack farms, and the difficulty of ascertaining the real requirements of the toddy consumers owing to the suppression of the consumption which formerly prevailed in some localities. The Board think that the Collectors might still be vested with discretionary power to sanction a moderate increase in the number of either arrack or toddy shops where they may deem it necessary in the interests of the public, the rights of rival contractors being duly considered and protected by appeal to the Board and Government. The orders of Government are requested on this point.

Board's Proceedings, dated 12th July 1875, No. 1,934.
Board's Proceedings, dated 30th September 1875, No. 2,738.

(A true Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with a Statement and twelve original letters and their enclosures, to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Ganjam.
" " of Vizagapatam.
" " of Nellore.
" " of Bellary.
" " of Chingleput.
" " of North Arcot.
" " of South Arcot.
" " of Tanjore.
" " of Trichinopoly.
" " of Coimbatore.
" " of Nilgiris.
" " of Salem.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

The Government consider that any large increase in the number of shops over that fixed prior to the sale of the farms must lead to well founded complaints from rival contractors, but as the exact number fixed prior to sale cannot in all cases be rigidly conformed to, certain additions may be permitted on proper grounds being shown for them, and Collectors should be careful in the exercise of this discretion, the rival claims of arrack and toddy renters and the wants of the people being duly weighed in each case before sanctioning changes in the number of shops.

9 June 1876

BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS.

1876.

PROCEEDINGS, 22ND MAY 1876, No. 1,332.

MAY.

No. 1,332.

Arrack and Toddy Shops—open at the present time and at the expiration of late contracts.—Submitting to Government replies from Collectors of excise districts regarding relative number of—, and requesting orders as to whether Collectors might still be vested with discretionary power to sanction a moderate increase in their number wherever necessary.