

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1721

DATED 30th March 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm^d to the B. of Rev. Secy. of the Govt. of India forwarding copy of letter from the L. of Forests re: the cost of converting timber into one ton of charcoal.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1812

Recd
30/3/97

Recy
Order mis No. 1721 d 30th March 97.
From
J. G. of I
Dept. of Rev & Ag^{re}

Comm'd to the Board
of Revenue in continuation of mis
No 127 d 9th Jan 1897.

No. 475

29-1

Dated 25th Feb 1897

Received 2 March 1897

Registered 2 — 3-1897

Enclosures

Spare copies 15 of the Encl

To The Board of Revenue (A. & O.)
9
Mis. 2-4-97

SUBJECT.

For forwarding for information
Copy of a letter from the
J. G. of Forests re: the cost
of converting timber
into one ton of Charcoal.

Recd
17/3/97

Recd
24/3/97

BACK PAPERS 67.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1271	Rw	7-1-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

1897.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

No. 152.

Dated Calcutta, the 15th February 1897.

SUBJECT.

Cost of converting timber into one ton of charcoal.

No. 152.

FROM

B. RIBBENTROP, Esq., C.I.E.,

Inspector General of Forests to the Government of India,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Calcutta, the 15th February 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state that the delay in my reply to Mr. Sly's letter No. 2286—36-4 (Geo. & Min.), dated the 26th August 1896, is due to the necessity of local enquiries.

2. It is reported from Madras that the conversion of timber into one ton of charcoal can be effected at R2 to R4 a ton. This seems hardly credible, as the conversion necessitates, under supervision, about 30 to 35 days of native labour. This of course can be somewhat reduced when two or three kilns are run at the same time by the same gang of men; but at a rate of three annas' wages per day it will, in my opinion, not be possible to convert timber into a ton of charcoal under R5. Rupees 6 will probably be the safer figure. This includes only the cost of felling, cutting up of the wood, bringing it to the kiln, and its conversion; but not the transport of the charcoal to the smelting works, nor supervision, nor the original cost of the wood.

3. We cannot expect to realize more than 20 per cent. outturn of charcoal, and a ton thereof necessitates the conversion of 250 cubic feet solid of timber, or say 125 maunds. If we estimate the value of the wood at R1 per ton only, this would amount to R5 per ton of charcoal; and the cost of the article in the forest would amount to R10 at least, when the daily wages are not more than three annas; for supervision and transport within a radius of, say, 6 miles, it may be safe to add another rupee; and under such circumstances it may be feasible to deliver charcoal at R11 to R12 per ton.

4. The cost of conversion under contract is usually based on 50 working days, and at the wage rate of three annas a day, it would amount to R9-6-0. If we add to this the initial cost of the wood at R5 per 5 tons and R1 for cost of transport to the smelting works, we obtain a cost rate of R15-6-0, or almost double the rate estimated by Mr. Brasier, which evidently omits to take count of the initial value of the wood.

5. In the second paragraph on page 17, Mr. Head puts the cost of charcoal at R24 per ton. This at the Madras rate of wages is one-third too high, and I think that the estimate in table 11 may safely be reduced by R10 (as there is no necessity of providing R2 for a forest superintendent) or to R56-0-10, which at 1s. 3d. per rupee comes to £3-10-0 instead of £4-0-4. It is, however, evident that even this reduction, which is safe, does not—accepting Mr. Head's other figures as correct—enable the Indian pig iron to compete with British imports.

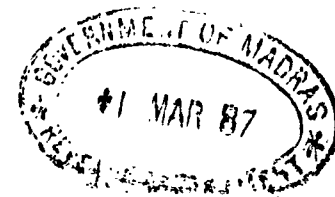
I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

B. RIBBENTROP,

Inspector General of Forests.



No. 475-
29-1
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.
(Geo: & Min:)

Calcutta, dated the 25th February 1897.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras for information, with
reference to the correspondence ending with the Honourable Mr.
Stokes' letter No.127.A.dated the 9th January 1897.

By order,

754

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

List of Papers forwarded.

Letter from the Inspector General of Forests No.152 dated the
15th February 1897.

B. B. D.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ } 189.
When examined _____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTERS OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
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B.B.—

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