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Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1768

DATED 1st April 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording R.P. submitting statement of consumption of country spirits & of locally made foreign spirits in the several Excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in up to the month of Jan^y 1897.

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 DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

MADRAS.

1/4/97

The Hon. Mr. B. S. C. I. S.

Printed March 17th.

Recd. 22nd March 1897
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25 April 97.

Proceedings, No. 85, 5th March 1897.

G.O. No 1768

Recorded 20/3/97

MARCH.

25/3/97

Submitting to Government, with remarks, the statement of consumption of country spirits and of locally-made foreign spirits in the several Excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of January 1897.

19/3/97 29/3/97

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(SEPARATE REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—No. 85, dated 5th March 1897.

The Board begs leave to submit to Government, with the following remarks, a statement showing the consumption of country spirits and of locally-made foreign spirits in the several Excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of January 1897.

COUNTRY SPIRITS.

2. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, there has been, in the Excise tracts of the Presidency, a net increase in consumption of 12,795 proof-gallons or about 1·5 per cent. The following explanations are offered for the variations in the several districts.

3. *Ganjam and Nellore*.—The increase in these districts is reported to be due to the extension of the system of separate sale of shops. In Ganjam it is also ascribed to the cheapness of arrack as compared with the previous year (*vide* section 18).

4. *Vizagapatam*.—The decrease is stated to be chiefly due to the fixing of a minimum selling price in the tracts in which shops were sold separately and also to the unfavourable character of the season.

5. *Kistna and Malabar*.—The Collectors of these districts report that enquiries are being made with a view to ascertain the causes of the variations in consumption.

6. *Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary*.—The decrease in these districts is attributed to the adverse state of the season. In Anantapur it is stated to be also due to the cheapness of toddy compared with the high price of arrack.

7. *Kurnool*.—The decrease is attributable to the enhancement of the rate of Excise duty from Rs. 1-5-0 to Rs. 3-1-0 per gallon of 30° under-proof in the Cumbum and Markapur taluks. It is reported to be due also to the bad season and the further extension of the system of separate sale of shops.

8. *Madras*.—The increase in the Madras town and the outside shops is small. The decrease in the Cantonment shops is ascribed to the opening of two Native regimental canteens at St. Thomas' Mount, and that in the Saidapet taluk to the late harvest during the current year.

9. *Chingleput*.—The increase is ascribed to the progress of the railway works in the Ponnéri taluk and to the scanty supply of toddy.

10. *North Arcot and Tanjore*.—The increase in these districts is reported to be due to the low price of arrack prevailing in them.

11. *South Arcot*.—The decrease which is most marked in the frontier taluks is ascribed to the enhancement of the rate of Excise duty and to the consumption of cheap French liquor. The Collector expects an improvement next year.

12. *Trichinopoly*.—The increase, chiefly in the Trichinopoly taluk, is attributed to insufficient supply of toddy due to the enhanced rate of tree-tax and to the greater prevalence of cholera during the current year.

13. *Madura, Tinnevely and Coimbatore*.—The increase in these districts is stated to be due to the favourable season. The increased facilities afforded by the opening of a greater number of wholesale depôts in Madura, and the insufficient supply of toddy and the use of arrack as medicine to prevent cholera in Tinnevely are also given as reasons for the increase.

14. *Nilgiris*.—The decrease in the district may, it is reported, be ascribed to the growing popularity of foreign liquor.

15. *Salem*.—The increase is attributed to the greater facilities afforded by the opening of a larger number of wholesale depôts during this year.

16. *South Canara*.—The increase is due to the fact that the Mangalore and Uppinangadi taluks and a portion of the Kasaragod taluk are now under the Excise system which, up to September 1895, was in force only in the Mangalore town area.

FOREIGN SPIRITS.

17. The total quantity of locally-made foreign spirits issued up to the month amounted to 12,177 proof-gallons in 1896-97 against 10,950 in 1895-96, being an increase of 1,227 proof-gallons or about 11·2 per cent. The variations in the several districts are explained below.

18. *Ganjam*.—The manager of the Aska distillery attributes the decrease to the low price of country spirits due to competition.

19. *Anantapur*.—The decrease is attributed to the absence of demand in the Dharmavaram tavern consequent probably on the scarcity.

20. *Madras*.—The increase up to the month is ascribed to the sale of gin and brandy in the Vepery distillery up to September 1896 and to the sale in Madras of gin manufactured in the Ranipettai distillery since that date.

21. *Trichinopoly*.—Nine hundred and seventy out of 993 gallons represent the quantity of raisin wine manufactured by the Jesuit Mission at Trichinopoly under the sanction accorded in G.O., No. 4443, dated 12th August 1891. The decrease is due to the fluctuating requirements of the Mission.

22. *Coimbatore*.—The D-21 (a) statement for the month under review has not yet been received in this office.

23. *Nilgiris*.—The increase is said to be due to a larger number of coolies being employed on the Railway and Lake-filling works in the district.

24. The variations in the remaining districts are small and call for no remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SHIPLEY,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

Rammanullete
Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ all Collectors.

„ the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division.

Copy to other Deputy Commissioners.

„ to all Assistant Commissioners.

„ to the Inspector, Madras Town Circle.