

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3749

DATED 20th July

[Despatch Abstract.]

According letter from the Govt. of India forwarding a copy of Despatch to the Secy. of State requesting sanction for certain additional establishment rendered necessary by the extension of the tree tax system to certain Districts of this Presidency.

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 (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 5905

From

The Govt of India.
F. & C. Dept.

Order mis. no. 3449 dtd 10th July 97

Received

11/7/97

No. 2988-811

Dated 8th July 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

air 297(97)

Note The delay in the dispatch of the letter to India has already been noticed by the H. M. and the Chief Secretary has already been addressed regarding the delay in printing the G.O.

Let me know, please, what the C. S. actually does in this scandalous case

Forwarding copy of a despatch to the Secy. of State requesting sanction for certain Addl Establt. rendered necessary by the extension of the tree-bark system to certain districts in the Madras Presy.

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 180 OF 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

SALARIES, ESTABLISHMENTS, ETC.
Excise.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 7th July 1897.

MY LORD,

IN our Despatches Nos. 128 and 269, dated 16th June and 16th September 1896, respectively, we reported for Your Lordship's approval and sanction the extension, from 1st October 1895 and 1st October 1896, of the tree-tax license fee system of toddy revenue throughout large areas, first of the southern and then of the northern districts of the Madras Presidency, involving the maintenance of new establishments, costing in all Rs. 17,778 a month, and in the communications marginally noted you were pleased to approve of this additional expenditure. The result of these measures has been that the tree-tax system is now practically universal in Madras, except in the agency tracts of the Northern Circars, the Nilgiri district where no toddy revenue is raised, and the districts of Bellary and Anantapur.

2. These two latter districts were not included in the previous proposals (1) because the Madras Government had not yet obtained sufficient information as to their toddy-producing capacity, and (2) because, as they are bounded by the Hyderabad State on the north and by Mysore on the south, there would have been a double risk of the importation of cheap untaxed toddy from these States. We now forward a letter from the Madras Government, and its enclosures, from which it will be seen that satisfactory information in regard to the first point has been furnished, and that in regard to the second, circumstances have been materially altered by the determination of the Mysore Durbar to introduce the tree-tax into its territories and to levy it at rates similar to those which may be prescribed for Bellary and Anantapur. Under these circumstances the Madras Government propose (as importation of cheap toddy from the Hyderabad frontier alone can be satisfactorily guarded against) to extend the tree-tax system to these two districts also with effect from 1st October next, and request sanction for the entertainment of new establishments estimated to cost Rs. 2,308 *per mensem* in view to its satisfactory working. The nature of the establishments is described in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Madras Government's letter and in the statement appended thereto, and we are satisfied that the proposals have been framed with a due regard to economy and efficiency. The reasons justifying their entertainment are the same as those set forth in our Despatches of 16th June and 16th September 1896 above referred to, the present proposals being merely a continuance and completion of the policy there indicated, which is certain, as we previously explained, to bear abundant fruit in the shape of enhanced revenue.

3. We therefore strongly recommend the scheme for Your Lordship's sanction, and, in view of the circumstances stated in paragraph 8 of the Madras Government's letter, we request that the matter may be treated as urgent and orders communicated to us by telegram.

4. We may explain that the necessity for the establishments being ready to commence work by the 1st September arises from the fact that before the tree-tax system is formally introduced, the country has to be carefully patrolled in order to ascertain (for the purpose of subsequently checking illicit tapping) where the toddy trees usually lie and which of them are habitually in use. Further, the trees which the shopkeepers intend to use must be marked and the fees thereon collected as early as possible. If considerable progress has not been made in this direction before 1st October, the shopkeepers, who have purchased from Government the right of vend from that date, would at the outset have no trees to draw toddy from.

5. We would add that though the Madras Government's letter is dated 15th May 1897, it reached us only on the 23rd June.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

(Signed) ELGIN.

„ G. S. WHITE.

„ J. WESTLAND.

„ J. WOODBURN.

„ M. D. CHALMERS.

„ E. H. H. COLLEN.

„ A. C. TREVOR.

Schedule of Papers.

1. Letter from the Government of Madras, No. 337, dated the 15th May 1897, and enclosures.

Copy.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
FINANCE AND COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT.
SALARIES, ESTABLISHMENTS, etc.
Excise.

FROM
THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

TO
THE SECY. OF STATE FOR INDIA.

No. 180.

Dated Simla, the 7th July 1897.

Received

Requesting sanction to the entertainment of certain additional establishments rendered necessary by the extension to the Bellary and Anantapur districts of the Madras Presidency of the tree-tax license fee system of raising toddy revenue.

No. 2988-Ex.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

Simla, the 8th July 1897.



To

The Revenue Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of 15th May 1897. No. 337. I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, copy of a despatch which the Government of India have addressed to the Secretary of State on the subject, and to say, with reference to its closing paragraph, that in view of the importance which the Madras Government attach to the

Receipt

receipt of early orders it is much to be regretted that your letter should not have arrived here till the 23rd June, over a month after the date on which it purports to have been written.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

Rm Daul
By Secy. to the Govt. of India.
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When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING WANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

S.E.-

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only