1669 8/3-6-97

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 414

DATED 25th Jany 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving Board's proposals regarding the percentage of imported packages to be ~~inspected~~ examined by Customs Officers and calling for further information regarding the proposal to require all boats landing free cargo at the Port of Trincomalie to touch at the Custom Jetty for examination of their cargo.

Letter. Requesting the Colonial Secretary of Ceylon to issue instructions for the supply to the Board of Revenue, Madras, of copies of such export returns as may have been published during the last two years or may be published in future.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1280/97						

Revenue (189) Department.

CURRENT No.

SECR. GOVT. MADRAS
8 JAN 97
REV. DEPT.

From the Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue Madras

Press No. 485

Order

Dated 5th December 1896

Received 7-1-97

Registered 8-1-97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT

Fixing the percentage of imported packages to be examined by Customs Officers, prescribing a register to show the number of packages of each sort in each bill of entry and the number opened for examination, suggesting to Government that the Ceylon Government be requested to forward to the Board copies of export returns published during the last 2 years & stating that Board agrees in the opinion of the Collector of Tinnevelly that the proposal that all boats landing free cargo at private jetties at Tuticorin should first touch at the Government jetty may be abandoned.

Regd 8/1/97.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	782	Rev	2-12-95 (0)
			Compl.
	258		
			20-1-96
B.P.	2	Lyons	8-1-96
65	1/95		(Compl.)

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

NOTE FOR THE Registrar

No returns of exports from Colombo were received in the Revenue Dept. during the year 1896.

A.S.
15.1.97.

Urgent

NOTE FOR THE Librarian

Secrett Library

Please say whether you get any returns of exports from Colombo

A.S.
15.1.97

Did you send them to the Registrar?

Yes
15/1/97

We did not send you any such returns. Please say whether you got any from the Collector of ~~Sea~~ Customs, Colombo.

A.S.
15.1.97

We got none from Collector, Colombo

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(SEPARATE REVENUE).

READ—the following Board's Proceedings recording reports from the Collectors of Gódávari, Tanjore, South Canara, Malabar, and Sea Customs, Madras, regarding the percentage of imported packages to be examined by Customs officers:—

Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 735, dated 25th February 1886.
" " " 756 " 27th " "
" " " 882 " 7th March 1896."

READ—also letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, No. 555, dated 13th November 1896, upon the above subject and upon the proposal that all boats landing free cargo at private jetties should touch at the Government jetty first.

RESOLUTION—No. 485, dated 5th December 1896.

In paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 782, Revenue, dated 2nd December 1895, Government requested the Board (1) to report what action it has taken with a view to ensure the more frequent opening and examination of packages and (2) to lay down some rule as to the percentage of packages to be examined by Customs officers.

2. With reference to the first point, Government was informed in Board's Proceedings, No. 2, dated 8th January 1896, that the Collectors of all the maritime districts were requested to issue instructions to Customs Superintendents insisting on the more frequent opening and examination of packages of all kinds, and with reference to point (2) the Collectors of certain districts in which the imports are large were requested to report what might be fixed as the percentage of packages to be examined by Customs officers. The proposals of the several Collectors have now been received and are given below:—

Gódávari.—Ten per cent. may be fixed as the minimum number of packages to be examined.

Tanjore.—Ten per cent. of the packages should be examined at Negapatam and all the packages should be examined at other ports if it can be done without difficulty as the imports in them are not considerable.

Tinnevelly.—Ten per cent. of all imported packages are examined at present. The Collector proposes that 10 per cent. of free goods and 20 per cent. of dutiable goods should be examined.

South Canara.—Ten per cent. of packages should ordinarily be opened and examined.

Malabar.—The rule is to examine at least 5 per cent. of the packages in the case of the consignments imported by native craft, and an undefined number of packages in the case of those imported by steamers. The Collector considers this to be sufficient.

Madras Sea Customs.—No hard and fast rule can be laid down for the examination of packages. From 2 to 10 per cent. of packages according to the description of goods should be examined. In the case of piece-goods which are imported in large quantities, one package should be opened to compare the contents with samples and one or two more to see that they contain the same goods as the first package opened. But a single package of merchandise should never pass unopened. Private packages, heavy cases of machinery and goods likely to be destroyed by exposure to light or air may be passed unopened at the discretion of the appraising officer.

3. The Board considers that 10 per cent. of the packages should ordinarily be examined in the mofussil ports, and would accept the proposals of the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, for the Madras port. A register should be kept to show the total number of packages of each description in each bill of entry and the number of each sort opened for examination.

4. With reference to G.O., Mis. No. 253, dated 20th January 1896, the Board begs leave to suggest that the Ceylon Government be requested to forward to the Board copies of any export returns which may have been published during the last two years. No returns have as yet been received with reference to the letter communicated in the Government Order above quoted.

5. With reference to the proposal to cause all boats which are landing free cargo at Tuticorin to touch at the Government jetty for examination of their cargo, noticed in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings printed in G.O., No. 782, Revenue, dated 2nd December 1895, the Collector now reports that it is extremely doubtful whether in practice the rule could or would be regularly enforced, and that he is therefore not in favour of the proposal. The Board sees no reason why this rule should not be enforced except that without a responsible Customs Officer stationed constantly on the pier it would delay work seriously. The Customs establishment is not strong enough to spare an officer for the duty, so the proposal may be abandoned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Sea Customs, Madras.
" Collectors of other Maritime Districts.

Ed. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.
Board of Revenue
(Separate Revenue),
MADRAS.

Printed December th.

Proceedings, No. 485, *5th December* 1896.

Fixing the percentage of imported packages to be examined by Customs Officers, prescribing a register to show the number of packages of each sort in each bill of entry and the number opened for examination, suggesting to Government that the Ceylon Government be requested to forward to the Board copies of export returns published during the last two years and stating that the Board agrees in the opinion of the Collector of Tinnevelly that the proposal that all boats landing free cargo at private jetties at Tuticorin should first touch at the Government jetty may be abandoned.

C. No. 141 of 97.

G. O. Mis. No. 1410 25th Nov 97

The Hon. Mr Bliss C.S.I.

The proposals in para 3 of the Proceedings read above are approved.

2. With reference to the remarks in para 5 of the Proceedings, the Board of Revenue is requested to report whether, now that our Asst. Superintendent has been sanctioned for the Port of Tuticorin, the proposal, to require all boats landing free cargo ~~at the Port~~ here to touch at the Government jetty for examination of their cargo, — cannot be enforced.

3. The Government of Ceylon will, as suggested, be requested to furnish the Board of Rev with copies of any export returns which may have been published during the last two years.

D
20-1-97

To
The Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

Rev. 29-1-97

C. 201/97
R. 231/97

P. T. O.

Ses. 29-1-97

To Letter No. 414A

Hon. the
The Colonial Secretary,
to the Govt. of ~~Colombo~~ Ceylon,

Sir,

Referring to the correspondence ending with your letter of 2nd — of 6th January 1896 intimating that the Principal Collector of Customs, Colombo, has been instructed to furnish this Government with copies of all export returns published from time to time, I am directed to state that no communication on the subject ~~Copies of such returns~~ have as yet been received by this Govt. and to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor, instructions may be issued for the supply to the Hon. Board of Revenue, Madras ~~[illegible]~~ of such a part. copies of the returns as that may have been published during the last two years. ~~and of~~ D. 20-1-97 ~~Copies of future returns as they are published~~

C.R.
16 Jan-97.

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

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189 , DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.							
[illegible] WITH DITTO.							
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.							

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