

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1942

Confidential N^o 1032

Dated 4th May 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sanctioning the Board's proposals for
the issue of toddy arrack manufactured by
MRR T. Ratnasami Nadar in Malabar to
cavern keepers in the Re.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

CONFIDENTIAL.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 3049

Confidential no 30

Sp
4/5/94

From

The Secretary to the
Commissioners of Salt, Akhbar
Heparate Revenue.

Order no 1942 dt 4th May 1898

The Board's proposals in para
4 of its Prop read above are
sanctioned approved and sanctioned.

Mis No. 1506.

KD
3/5/98

3/5/98

Dated 19th April 1898

Received 23 do

Registered 23 do -

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting the sanction of
Government to the issue of Cocanutt
toddy arrack manufactured by
M.R.R. J. Ratanasami Nadas in
his distilleries in Malabar to tavern
keepers in the Presidency in view
of the levy by the Ceylon Government
of an export duty of Rs 1-4-4 per
proof gallon of Colombo Arrack

(From order)
2

Re B. S. Rem (S.R) 20/5/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

1,000
10-4-98.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 19th April 1898.

Mis. No. 1506.

Read again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue Separate Revenue Sub No 1540 dated 30th March 1898, informing petitioners V. Murugisa Mudaliar, V. Gundaswami Mudaliar and others that final orders on their petitions regarding the recent auction sales of the taverns in the Madras Town Circle will be passed in the course of the month of April and that meanwhile, they will be held to their bargains.

Read again Board's Proceedings Mis No 1454 dated 13th April 1898 communicating to the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, for information G.O. Mis No 1618, Revenue, dated 6th April 1898.

also
Read petition dated 31st March 1898 from

Kathirvelu Mudali, N. Muregesa Mudali and others, Tavern keepers, Madras, requesting that the Colombo arrack manufactured by M.R. J. Ratnasami Nadar at Korapuzha, Cannanore and other distilleries may be ordered to be brought over to Madras for sale.

Resolution.

Referring to the telegram from the Government of Ceylon communicated with G.O. No 1618 R.D. dated 6th April 1898, whereby the Madras Government was informed of the imposition of an export duty of Rs 1-4-11 per proof gallon on Colombo arrack the Board begs to report that it has received a petition from the Tavern keepers of the Madras Town requesting that, in view of the imposition of this new duty, either a fresh auction of the taverns may be held or that the rentals fixed by the recent auctions may be reduced accordingly.

2. The Tavern keepers are not of right entitled to any such concession, and they have at present raised their prices so as to protect themselves

themselves; but it is anticipated that the high price will diminish consumption and place the dealers in difficulties with Government sooner or later. There has been a fall in tavern rents from Rs 180,384 in 1897-98 to Rs 156,803 in 1898-99 for which fall many causes are assigned: the increased cost of Colombo arrack was not one of them.

3. It appears to the Board that the best method of action, present and prospective, is to legalize the transport of Coconut toddy, arrack, which is to all intents and purposes the same thing as Colombo arrack, from Malabar. This course is calculated to increase the revenue, to satisfy the shopkeepers and the public, and to transfer a Ceylon industry to this country. The necessary amount of liquor can it is believed be furnished without difficulty and without endangering the supply proper to Malabar. The Contractor for that district M.R. J. Ratnasami Nadar assures the Board that he can supply in sufficient quantity within 15 or 20 days if facilities in the provision of trees are afforded.

afforded him at Chowhat and Cannanore and transport to and sale in Madras permitted. He proposes to sell at Rs 6 or Rs 6-2-4 per gallon. Certain shopkeepers have submitted a petition in favour of this arrangement and there seems to be little doubt the liquor would find a ready market in competition with Colombo arrack.

4. The Board therefore requests the sanction of Government to permit the Contractor of the Malabar district for the time being (it has no radical changes in the Contract System for that District under contemplation) to set up a distillery or distilleries for the manufacture of Coconut toddy arrack to be sold on payment of the tariff rate of duty to tavern keepers throughout the Presidency and pending the construction of the same to issue such arrack from his existing distilleries.

5. The necessary changes in the Distillery and Warehouse rules will be made on receipt of Government sanction to these proposals.

6. The very early orders of Government are requested.

7. It should be added that in 1895 M.R.R. Ratnasami Nadar with the permission of the Collector of Malabar imported some Malabar liquor into Madras Town as an experiment paying the tariff rate of duty, but the Board having regard to the small output of the Malabar distilleries and the dangers to the tree tapping revenue that attended the supply from untaxed trees for distillation declined to permit the import. The supply to the distilleries is now under better arrangement and control. The Board may propose for the next lease that toddy for distillation shall be obtained only from taxed trees and the number of these be carefully regulated and the still-head duty diminished accordingly; but meantime manufacture in the district must proceed on its current lines and sometime would be

be necessary to find whether the Madras
market would accept Malabar in lieu
of Colombo arrack in such quantity as
to render a thorough consideration of the
matter necessary.

(True Extract)

R. M. M. M.

Asst. Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

Telegram under G.O. No 1618
of 6.4.98.

2. Please see in this connection
petition in G.O. 715 R of 21.4.98.

B. P. No 1506 D of 19.4.98 (C. No 3049)

To Sir

In the current read above
the Board of Revenue reports that
in consequence of the imposition by
the Ceylon Govt. of an export duty
of Rs 1-4-00 per gallon of proof
strength on Colombo arrack, the
tavern keepers in the town of Madras
have submitted a petition requesting
that either a fresh sale of the shops
may be held or that the rentals at
the sales already held may be reduced.
The Board is satisfied that they have
no legal right to either concession;
but anticipates a reduction in the
consumption of the liquor consequent
on an enhancement of prices which
the dealers have already made in
order to protect themselves, and
apprehends that they will be placed
in difficulties sooner or later with
Govt.

2. The Board therefore proposes to
legalize the transport of Coconut
toddy from Malabar, the contract
supplier of which is prepared to
establish

establish a distillery for the supply
of arrack to Madras on payment
of the tariff rate of duty. Such
a measure will in its opinion
increase the revenue, satisfy the
shopkeepers and transfer a Ceylon
industry to this country. Pending
the establishment of a distillery
the Contract supplier is to be allowed
to issue the liquor from his existing
distilleries.

3. As the Board appears to be of opinion
that the contractor will be able
to meet his engagements both
in Malabar and in Madras, it is
thought that the experiment
may be tried.

4. The import of Colombo arrack
into this Presidency during 96-97
amounts to 90,662 gallons
of proof strength, of which 90,467
gallons were imported into
Madras.

185
Pay ~~1845~~ of the volume
on home trade.

KD
29/4/98
Hence the experiment is
worth trying.

2/5/98

2/5/98

To Secy
Please send draft order
put up on the back of the
current.

KD
2/5/98

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.

STATEMENT 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.