Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2668

DATED 23rd June

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B. P submitting to Govt. with remarks the assessment of consumption of country spirits & of locally made foreign spirits in the several excise tracts of the Madras Presy. in and up to the month of March 1898.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed June 7th.
Read 13
Rejd 14

Proceedings, No. 141, 10th May 1898.

G.O. Issue no. 2668 dt 23rd June 98.

Received.

KO
16/6/98

MAY.

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 March 1898.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(SEPARATE REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—No. 141, dated 10th May 1898.

The Board begs 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 March 1898.

COUNTRY SPIRITS.

2. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, there has been, in the excise tracts of the Presidency, a net decrease in consumption of 48,787 proof-gallons or about 5 per cent. The following explanations are offered by the Collectors for the variations in the several districts.

3. *Cuddapah, Bellary, Kurnool and Tinnevelly.*—The increase is attributed to the favourable character of the season. In Tinnevelly, it is also ascribed to the opening of sixteen more shops than in the previous year.

4. *South Arcot.*—Increase is observed chiefly in the Vriddhachalam, Tiruvannámalai and Kallakurchi taluks and is reported to be due to heavy rain in September last, inadequate supply of toddy at the close of the previous toddy lease, a slight reduction in the price of arrack owing to competition between shop keepers and the employment of a large number of coolies on the Pelandorai anicut works.

5. *Coimbatore.*—The increase is attributed to a falling off in the supply of toddy owing to deficiency of rainfall.

6. *Malabar.*—The increase in the Wynaad taluk is ascribed to the influx of coolies for work in certain newly-opened coffee and tea estates; and in the other excise tracts of the district, to the prevalence of cholera and partly also to an improvement in the quality of the arrack supplied.

7. *Ganjám, Kistna, Nellore and South Canara.*—The decrease in these tracts is reported to be due to the unfavourable character of the season. In Ganjám, it is also attributed partly to the closure of certain shops; and in Kistna and South Canara, to an increase in the selling price of the liquor. The decrease in South Canara is said to be also due to the opening of a smaller number of shops than in the previous year and possibly in some degree to illicit distillation.

8. *Vizagapatam.*—As reported by the Collector in previous months, the decrease up to the month is attributable to the unfavourable character of the season. The increase in the month under review is ascribed to its improvement.

9. *Madras.*—The decrease is attributed to the bad state of the season, to the closure of certain public works which were under construction during the previous year and to the consequent emigration of a large number of labourers.

10. *Chingleput.*—The decrease is reported to be chiefly due to the fact that a large number of labourers who were employed in the previous year on the railway works in the Ponnéri taluk and the water-supply works in the Conjeeveram town have since left the district. The Conjeeveram taluk (excluding the town) shows, however, a large increase which is stated by the Collector to be due to the scarcity of toddy.

11. *Tanjore.*—The decrease is ascribed to the working of a smaller number of wholesale vend depots than in the previous year.

12. *The Nilgiris.*—The decrease is attributed to a growing preference for foreign liquor as compared with country liquor.

13. The variations in the other tracts call for no remarks.

FOREIGN SPIRITS.

14. The total quantity of locally-made foreign spirits issued up to the month under review amounted to 15,198 proof-gallons against 13,833 in 1896-97, being an increase of 1,365 proof-gallons or about 9·9 per cent.

15. *North Arcot.*—The increase is reported to be due to the sale, in the Kálahasti and other taverns, of gin manufactured in the Nellikuppam distillery.

16. *The Nilgiris.*—The reason for the increase has been given in paragraph 13 *supra*.

17. *Anantapur and Kurnool.*—The only reason given for the decrease is smaller demand.

18. *Bellary.*—The decrease is attributed to the unfavourable state of the season during the earlier months of the year.

19. *Coimbatore.*—The decrease has not been explained by the Collector.

20. *Trichinopoly.*—The figures shown against this district in columns 7 and 8 of the Appendix represent the quantity of raisin wine manufactured by the Jesuit Mission at Trichinopoly under the sanction accorded in G.O., No. 4143, dated 12th August 1891. The variation is attributed to the fluctuation in the requirements of the Mission.

21. The variations in the other tracts call for no remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. TODHUNTER,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

Ag. Asst. Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" all Collectors (D.Os.—Tahsildars and independent Deputy Tahsildars).
" the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division.
Copy to other Deputy Commissioners.
" to all Assistant Commissioners.
" to the Inspector, Madras Town Circle.

Exd. C. Parthasarathy.

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE statement of consumption of spirits in the several Excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in and up to the month of March 1898.

Districts.		COUNTRY SPIRITS IN GALLONS. In the month. 20° under-proof.	30° under-proof.	60° under-proof.	Total (proof).	Total up to the month (proof).	LOCALLY-MADE FOREIGN SPIRITS IN PROOF GALLONS. In the month.	Up to the month
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Ganjám	1896-97	..	988	3,334	2,025	61,695	20	331
	1897-98	..	1,352	3,805	2,468	49,171	57	353
2. Vizagapatam	1896-97	6	4,291	482	3,202	74,041	..	..
	1897-98	2	4,858	241	3,499	60,283	..	..
3. Kistna (Excise tracts)	1896-97	1,268	6,739	647	5,991	*90,540	..	..
	1897-98	755	7,267	400	5,851	72,369	..	..
4. Nellore	1896-97	..	4,598	..	3,219	42,796	..	..
	1897-98	..	3,898	..	2,729	40,214	..	..
5. Cuddapah	1896-97	2,002	1,170	..	2,421	*35,097	..	22
	1897-98	2,333	1,253	..	2,744	37,510	..	94
6. Anantapur	1896-97	567	428	..	753	*13,738	7	60
	1897-98	561	853	..	1,032	13,756	..	224
7. Bellary	1896-97	247	2,252	..	1,774	*33,754	7	136
	1897-98	375	2,865	..	2,305	35,219	28	574
8. Kurnool	1896-97	1,085	257	..	1,048	*15,770	34	347
	1897-98	1,824	237	..	1,625	21,305	35	207
9. Madras { Madras town, including the outside shops. The rest of the Madras Town Circle.	1896-97	20	5,790	..	4,069	57,447	5	104
	1897-98	..	4,379	..	3,065	47,959	336	3,193
	1896-97	..	*1,473	..	*1,031	*14,335	172	3,000
	1897-98	..	983	..	688	13,329		
10. Chingleput	1896-97	..	3,091	..	2,164	*35,302	..	..
	1897-98	..	2,484	..	1,738	33,042	..	..
11. North Arcot	1896-97	244	5,201	..	3,826	65,719	..	17
	1897-98	224	4,937	..	3,656	63,753	7	122
12. South Arcot	1896-97	..	7,295	..	5,108	*67,780	..	12
	1897-98	8	7,688	3	5,388	72,428	6	6
13. Tanjore	1896-97	..	4,006	..	2,801	39,774	..	..
	1897-98	2	3,310	..	2,319	33,261	..	..
14. Trichinopoly	1896-97	52	3,887	..	2,763	40,306	129	1,209
	1897-98	67	3,854	..	2,751	38,643	98	1,098
15. Madura	1896-97	..	4,693	..	3,285	43,594	..	32
	1897-98	..	4,091	..	2,864	42,504	..	24
16. Tinnevelly	1896-97	..	2,130	..	1,491	24,003	..	..
	1897-98	..	2,118	..	1,483	23,829	..	..
17. Coimbatore	1896-97	3,171	1,350	..	3,482	*45,181	30	523
	1897-98	3,539	1,252	..	3,708	51,325	33	414
18. The Nilgiris	1896-97	76	3,550	..	2,546	29,195	273	7,416
	1897-98	58	2,725	..	1,954	26,718	614	9,483
19. Salem	1896-97	13	6,050	..	4,245	60,446	..	6
	1897-98	..	6,295	..	4,403	60,927	..	..
20. South Canara (Excise tracts)	1896-97	..	4,502	..	3,152	41,238	..	..
	1897-98	..	3,585	..	2,510	34,553	..	..
21. Malabar { Wynaad taluk	1896-97	600	..	..	480	5,823	..	..
	1897-98	791	..	..	633	6,437	..	40
Other Excise taluks	1896-97	941	4,519	1,036	4,330	*41,247	..	29
	1897-98	907	4,332	690	4,034	46,029		
Total	1896-97	10,292	*73,260	5,502	*65,219	*976,451	851	13,833
	1897-98	11,446	74,626	5,136	63,450	927,664	1,040	15,198

* Revised figure.

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