Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2889

DATED 9th July 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B.P. informing Govt.
that the Board understand that the notice of the
Govt. of India No. 5536, S.R. of 22.12.97 covers the
liquid fuel which Messrs Best & Co. pro-
pose to import.

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 (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4743.

From the Board of Rev(S.R) No 2212 dated 30-5-98 (C no 4159);
O.M. to the Board No 136 dated 23-6-98;

From the Board of Rev(S.R) No 2619 dated 1-7-98 (C no 4713)

Order Mds no. 2889 dd 9th July 98.

Recorded.

KQ
7/7/98

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

His. **No.** 2619.

Dated 1st July 18

Received 6.7.98

Registered 6.7.98

Enclosures /

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Informing Government with reference to its Official Memo; that the Board understands that the notification of the Government of India No. 5536 S.R, dated 22nd December 1897 covers the liquid fuel which Messrs Best and Co. propose to import.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
O.in.	136 / 23.6		98.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Extract from a Demi-Official letter from Messrs West & Co.

--------:000:--------

" The Government of India Order sanctioning the reduction of duty to 5 per cent covers our Liquid Fuel all right, and we are now in communication with our Home friends in regard to joint action being taken for its entire exemption from duty. In the meanwhile you might let the matter remain in abeyance and when we decide upon what we are going to do, I will write you further."

Acting Secretary.

4.7.98

4/7/98

No. 2619.

O F F I C I A L M E M O R A N D U M.

--------:0:--------

Replying to Official Memorandum from Government No.136, dated 22nd June 1898, the Board beg to report that it understands that the notification of the Government of India No. 5516 S.R, dated 22nd December 1897 covers the liquid fuel which Messrs Best and Co. propose to import. An extract from a Demi-Official letter of the firm on the subject is appended.

Board of Revenue
(Separate Revenue)
Dated 1st July 1898.

Acting Secretary.

4.778

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

4/7/98
4.7.98

186 f
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Register No.
Current No.

O. M. No. 136

With reference to its Prop
since No 2212 dy 30.5.98
reporting on the petition of
Messrs Best and Co praying
that the necessary provision
may be made in the Indian
Tariff Act for the importation
of liquid fuel into India
without payment of duty,
the Board of Revenue is
requested to report whether
~~its intention is~~ that the
liquid fuel referred to by
Messrs Best & Co ~~should be~~
imported on a free per cent
duty with reference to the
notification of the Govt
of India No 5536 V.R dy 22-12-97
or whether the Board
means that steps
should be taken to include
it in ~~the~~ that notification

21/6/98

To
The Bd. of Revenue (V.R).

Cost accounted
23rd June 1898

ref to G.O. No 53 dy 6.1.98.

5h/23/6/98

KQ
18/6/98

Wood to
21/6/98

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4159

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

From
The Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue Madras
Their No. 2212

Order

Dated 30th May 1898
Received 10 June
Registered 12 "
Enclosures 1
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Reporting to Government that the liquid fuel which Messrs. Best and Co. wish to import appears to be similar to that exempted from the whole of the Customs duty in excess of 5 per cent advalorem leviable thereon, under the Notification of the Government of India Communicated with Government Order No. 53 Revenue, dated 5th January 1898, and returning to Government the Letter of Messrs. Best and Co

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Mis	6329	Rev.	8.12.97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

1,000
10-4-95.

BEST & Co.

REFER TO
B. P. No. 10
250.

Revenue 1/s
2/12/97

Madras, 1st December 1897

CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
2 DEC. 1897

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Govt of Madras.
Fort St George.

Sir,

We have the honor to draw your attention to the fact that no provision is made in the Indian Tariff Act No III of 1896 regarding the importation of liquid fuel into India and to ask that the Government of India be addressed with a view to its early amendment.

2. The fuel in question is largely used in the Russian Railways and in Steamers on the Caspian Sea, and has moreover recently been brought into use with signal success by the Great Eastern Railway Co in England, as will be seen from the enclosed papers descriptive of the method of using it and results obtained.

3. The cost of the fuel has so far, prevented its introduction into this Country, but owing to the recent development of oil fields in the East, its successful

of the Customs duty in excess of
advalorem leviable thereon under Notification
of

BACK PAPERS.

successful importation is now only retarded by the omission in the Tariff Act above referred to.

4. Under Schedule T (39) Coal, Coke, and patent fuel are admitted free, and upon the same ground that these articles were exempted from duty, we beg to apply for the like concession in the case of liquid fuel.

CHIEF SECRETARY
2 DEC. 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

5. This fuel is one of the by-products of petroleum, has a specific gravity of about 0.9, a flashing point above 200° F. and is perfectly safe and non-explosive. It is our intention to start its importation at an early date, but pending an amendment of the Indian Tariff Act — No III of 1896, we are debarred from doing so, as we take the Tariff as it now stands, to imply that the fuel in question would be liable under schedul II (16) to a duty of one anna per Imperial gallon, equivalent to a tax on the consumer of about 50% of the cost at which we hope to lay it down.

6. In asking that this fuel may be admitted free, we are not suggesting a change that will deprive Government of any revenue, we are only asking that it may be placed on the same footing as

of the Customs duty in excess of 5 percent advalorem leviable thereon under Notification

of

1,000
10-4-05.

as other articles for the same purpose against which it will have to compete, we therefore hope the Government of Madras will support our proposal for its admission free of duty and take early steps to procure the necessary amendment to the Tariff Act.

7. In conclusion we would add that we are of opinion that the introduction of this fuel is likely to confer great benefit to industrial enterprise in this Presidency and the rest of India, and we are not without hope that its importation will, at an early date, lead to the utilization and development of the large and valuable deposits of iron ore in the Salem District.

We have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servants,

W. A. L.

be similar to that exempted from the whole of the Customs duty in excess of 5 percent ad valorem leviable thereon under notification

of

208
4659

1,000
19-4-95.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE
MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 30th May 1898.

Mis No. 2212

Read Government Order Mis No. 6329, Revenue, dated 8th December 1897.

Read also letter, from Messrs Best and Co. Madras, Agents, The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company Limited, B.P.No. 1A/56, dated 19th May 1898 forwarding ~~5~~ 8 bottles of oil duly Sealed being one Sample of the Liquid Fuel proposed to be imported into India

Resolution

Replying to Government Order Mis No. 6329 Revenue, dated 8th December 1897, referring to the Board for favour of remarks a letter from Messrs Best and Co. requesting the exemption of Liquid fuel from import duty under the Tariff Act the Board begs to report that the article which Messrs Best and Co. wish to import appears to be similar to that exempted from the whole of the Customs duty in excess of 5 percent advalorem leviable thereon under notification

of

of the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department No. 5536 S.R, dated 22nd December 1897, Communicated with Government Order Mis No. 53 Revenue, dated 6th January 1898. Messrs. Best and Co's letter is therefore returned.

(True Extract)

C. Galbraith
Ag. Secretary
8.6.98.

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department with
Messrs. Best and Co's letter returned

Messrs. Best and Co. with 6 bottles
of oil returned.

Dt
5/6/98
Rs
8.6.98

filed with the Complaint

Page 26 of the Act
put up.

*No 5536 S.R dt 22.12.97
under G.O. No 53 dt 6.1.98

Read again G.O. No. 6329 dt 9.12.97
" B.P. No. 2212 dt 30.6.98
" (C. No 4159)

To Secy:-

In their letter dt 1.12.97 Messrs Best and Co. pointed out that the Indian Tariff Act contained no provision for the importation of liquid fuel into India, and requested that the Govt of India might be moved to place it on the same footing as "coal, coke and patent fuel", which under Art. 39 of the fourth Schedule may be imported free of duty. The petition was referred for the remarks of the Board of Revenue, which reports that the article, which Messrs Best and Co wish to import, is similar to that exempted by the notification* originally noted from the whole of the Customs duties leviable thereon in excess of five per cent advalorem.

2. The Board does not state whether

whether the oil may be exempted from even the reduced duty; but it is thought that a proposal to this effect will not meet with approval. For under Art. 16 (page 230 of the Act) petroleum which has its flashing point at or above 200° F and required for certain purposes is taxed five percent advalorem. If petroleum imported for ostensible use as fuel be exempted, there is nothing to prevent its being used for other purposes such as those referred to in the Schedule. 3. May Messrs Best & Co be informed accordingly?

KD
17/6/98

Does the Board mean that the liquid fuel may be imported now on a 5% duty?

S.S. 7/6/98

To Secy

This is apparently what the Board means. May it be asked?

Yes
S.S. 8/7/98

KD
7/6/98

To Secy Please see draft o.m. put up on 11/7/1898

Read B.O. (S.O.) No 2619 dated 1-7-98 (C. No 4743).

To Secy

Please see the Board's reply to the O.M. below. The Board is of opinion that the Govt. of India's Notification covers Messrs Best and Co's liquid oil.

May the correspondence be recorded?

Please add draft order on the docket sheet of the later current.

KD
7/7/98

Issue Draft
S.S. 8/7/98

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

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

OUTWARD No.

ENCLOSURES TO O. 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.
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