

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2961

DATED 15th July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording with reference to B.P. submitting to
Govt., 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 the month of April 1897.

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 DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed June 30th.

Read 4th July
1898.

Proceedings, No. 165, 10th June 1898.

It seems to me that the continued high prices of grain is a factor to be considered.

JUNE.

g.o. min. H. M. 9/7/98

Recorded

8/7/98

6/7/98

continued high prices of grain is also no doubt a factor in the decreased consumption of

country spirits

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 the month of April 1898.

15/7/98

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(SEPARATE REVENUE).

RESOLUTION—No. 165, dated 10th June 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 the month of April 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 11,227 proof gallons or about 14 per cent. The following explanations are offered by the Collectors for the variations in the several districts.

3. *Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool*.—The increase is attributed to the favourable character of the season and in Anantapur it is also ascribed to the fact that a large number of toddy shops were not working.

4. *Coimbatore*.—The increase is reported to be due to a falling off in the supply of toddy owing to deficiency of rainfall in the current year.

5. *Ganjām*.—The decrease has not been explained by the Collector.

6. *Vizagapatam, Cuddapah, North Arcot, Tinnevely and the Wynaad taluk of Malabar*.—The decrease is reported to be due to the late opening of a number of shops, the month under review being the first month of the current official year. Increase in the selling price of arrack is also reported as a cause for the decrease in the Anakapalle taluk of the Vizagapatam district and in the Tinnevely district.

7. *Kistna, Nellore, Madras, Chingleput, South Canara and Malabar (Excise tracts except Wynaad)*.—The decrease in these tracts is attributed to the unfavourable character of the season. In Kistna and South Canara it is also attributed to an increase in the selling price of the liquor, and in Madras to the closure of certain public works which were under construction during the previous year and the consequent emigration of a large number of labourers. The decrease in South Canara is reported 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. *South Arcot*.—The Collector states that no explanation can be offered for the variation in consumption in the first month of the year.

9. *Tanjore*.—The Collector reports that only ten wholesale vend depots were working in the district in April last against twenty in the previous year, but he is not prepared to accept this as an explanation for the decrease as he finds that the selling price of arrack in the month under review was lower than in the corresponding period of the previous year. He considers that the decrease is probably due to the late opening of wholesale vend depots and shops in the current official year. But the Deputy Commissioner, Southern Division, who was requested to report as to the sufficiency in the number of depots in the district, reports that difficulty is experienced by shopkeepers in getting supplies of arrack, and recommends the opening of more depots in the district. The Collector's attention has been drawn to his report.

10. *Madura*.—The decrease is attributed to high price of arrack brought about by the amalgamation of three rival wholesale vend depots of the previous year into one during the current year.

11. *Salem*.—The decrease is reported to be due to the amalgamation of Messrs. Parry & Co., and the Arcot Sugar Works and Distilleries Company and the opening of a smaller number of wholesale vend depots than in the previous year.

12. The variations in the other districts are small and call for no remarks.

13. The majority of the explanations seem to the Board to be insufficient considering the extent of the decrease and the fact that the four previous months' returns showed a steady improvement in consumption. The Collectors concerned will be requested to go fully into the matter when submitting their returns for June, paying special attention to the question of price.

FOREIGN SPIRITS.

14. The total quantity of locally-made foreign spirits issued in the month under review amounted to 1,282 proof-gallons against 1,653 in 1897-98, being a decrease of 376 proof-gallons or about 22·7 per cent.

15. The increase in the Ganjām and the Cuddapah districts and decrease in the Madras Town Circle have not been explained by the local officers concerned.

16. *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. 4443, dated 12th August 1891.

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

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. TODD HUNTER,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

R. M. Pahlavan
Ag. Asst. Secretary.

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

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE statement of consumption of spirits in the several Excise tracts of the Madras Presidency in the month of April 1898.

Districts.		COUNTRY SPIRITS IN GALLONS.				LOCALLY-MADE FOREIGN SPIRITS IN PROOF-GALLONS.	
		In the month.				In the month.	Up to the month.
		20° under-proof.	30° under-proof.	60° under-proof.	Total (proof).		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Ganjam	1897-98 ..	20	3,095	10,589	6,538	6,538	10
	1898-99 ..	9	2,345	10,929	6,020	6,020	52
2. Vizagapatam .. .	1897-98 ..	70	8,681	1,316	6,671	6,671	..
	1898-99 ..	30	7,257	1,430	5,676	5,676	..
3. Kistna (Excise tracts) ..	1897-98 ..	604	8,068	518	6,388	6,388	..
	1898-99 ..	590	5,017	446	4,183	4,183	..
4. Nellore	1897-98 ..	..	4,512	..	3,173	3,173	..
	1898-99 ..	..	3,916	..	2,741	2,741	..
5. Cuddapah	1897-98 ..	2,330	1,495	..	2,917	2,917	7
	1898-99 ..	1,394	1,060	..	1,857	1,857	65
6. Anantapur	1897-98 ..	465	803	..	794	794	..
	1898-99 ..	533	730	..	937	937	29
7. Bellary	1897-98 ..	427	2,510	..	2,190	2,190	29
	1898-99 ..	585	3,862	..	3,171	3,171	6
8. Kurnool	1897-98 ..	1,375	140	..	1,158	1,158	29
	1898-99 ..	1,756	59	..	1,446	1,446	17
9. Madras	Madras Town, including the outside shops.	65	6,700	..	4,742	4,742	..
	The rest of the Madras Town Circle.	..	6,198	..	4,338	4,338	459
	1897-98 ..	..	1,747	..	1,223	1,223	71
	1898-99 ..	..	1,180	..	826	826	..
10. Chingleput	1897-98 ..	..	3,166	..	2,216	2,216	..
	1898-99 ..	..	2,188	..	1,632	1,632	..
11. North Arcot	1897-98 ..	394	5,891	..	4,439	4,439	24
	1898-99 ..	304	4,105	..	3,116	3,116	26
12. South Arcot	1897-98 ..	..	7,595	..	5,598	5,598	..
	1898-99 ..	84	6,337	..	4,503	4,503	..
13. Tanjore	1897-98 ..	..	4,650	..	3,255	3,255	..
	1898-99 ..	2	3,968	..	2,779	2,779	..
14. Trichinopoly	1897-98 ..	98	4,449	..	3,193	3,193	46
	1898-99 ..	58	4,460	..	3,168	3,168	..
15. Madura	1897-98 ..	..	4,870	..	3,479	3,479	..
	1898-99 ..	..	4,452	..	3,116	3,116	6
16. Tinnevely	1897-98 ..	..	2,780	..	1,946	1,946	..
	1898-99 ..	..	2,629	..	1,840	1,840	..
17. Coimbatore	1897-98 ..	3,637	1,286	..	3,810	3,810	48
	1898-99 ..	4,001	1,636	..	4,346	4,346	30
18. The Nilgiris	1897-98 ..	87	3,399	..	2,449	2,449	1,006
	1898-99 ..	20	3,626	..	2,554	2,554	974
19. Salem	1897-98 ..	40	7,583	..	5,340	5,340	..
	1898-99 ..	11	6,140	..	4,307	4,307	..
20. South Canara (Excise tracts) ..	1897-98 ..	..	6,099	..	4,269	4,269	..
	1898-99 ..	..	3,935	..	2,755	2,755	..
21. Malabar	Wysad taluk ..	895	..	..	716	716	..
	Other Excise taluka ..	600	..	..	480	480	..
	1897-98 ..	835	3,900	819	3,726	3,726	6
	1898-99 ..	657	3,657	541	3,302	3,302	..
Total ..	1897-98 ..	11,351	93,869	13,576	80,220	80,220	1,658
	1898-99 ..	10,634	76,787	13,346	68,993	68,993	1,282

* Revised figure.

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