

Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1082

DATED 15th March 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording with remarks B.P. regarding the
preparation of Forecasts of the Outturn of
Cotton in the Madras Presy.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	CN 4994/99		6/4-11-9-99				
	CN 4658/00						

Revenue (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1340

From The Board of Revenue,
Rev. Sett. L.R. & Agri.,
Madras.

Order No. 1082 of 15th March 99

Recorded pending further report.
2. With reference to para 2
of the Bd. Prop. The
necessary instructions
will come in the
Political Dept

Dated 16th February 1899

Received 22

Registered 23

Enclosures /

Spare copies

No. 993 Mis.

SUBJECT.

Forecast of the outturn of
cotton.

Recording with remarks, G.O. accept-
ing with remarks the Board's views
re the preparation of -----
in the Madras Presidency.

To the Bd. of Rev. RS 2K4A
of the Pol. Dept

Recd may be asked to
accept the fact

G.O. No. 30 of 23.3.99

78th co



Please see note below

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Rev	63	Revenue	23-1-99
Rev	87	Revenue	12-2-98
Rev	798	Revenue	20-9-98
	427	Rev	3-6-97
	4363	Rev	5-11-9

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sett. 13-3,000-25-4 98.

DEPARTMENT.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 16th February 1899.

189 .

No. 993 Mis.

Re: G.O., Revenue, No. 63, dated 23rd January 1899.

Resolution.

Recorded, pending receipt of a reply from the Chamber to Board's Proceedings No. 554, dated 26th January '99.

2. As the final forecast of the outturn of the cotton crop must be published by February 10th each year, the Board would suggest that the Political Agents for Banganapalli, Sandur, and Pudukottai may be requested to obtain reports in the prescribed form B-Vide Board's Proceedings No.138 dated 19th June 96 and to secure their submission to the Board on 1st February each year. This should, however, not be held to supersede the preparation of more complete figures for the whole year later on.

(True Extract)

R. G. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To
The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
With copy of B.P. 534 dated 26.1.99.

Exd 24/2



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 26th January 1899. -189

No. 554 Mis.

READ the following letter from the Hon'ble Mr S.R. Turnbull,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Madras:-

9063
23-1-99

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 421, dated the 19th November 1898, discussing the rates of outturn of cotton proposed by the Chamber. As the Board declines to modify the rates which it lately adopted, it will be of little use for the Chamber to enter further into lengthy discussion of the matter in support of its contention that the Board's estimates are too low. The Chamber wishes, however, to direct the Board's attention to the following extract from Dewan Bahadur S. Srinivasa Raghaviengar's "Memorandum on the Progress of the Madras Presidency during the last 40 years".

"In fertile soils and under good treatment 1000 lbs. of seed cotton per acre is no unusual on them: an ordinary good yield of cotton may be taken to vary from 750 to 900 lbs. of seed cotton, while 500 lbs. may be taken as a fair average of yield, taking all soils into consideration. These figures have been arrived at from the statements of different classes of ryots and include the first and second courses of pickings. It is assumed

by

dealers that 6 poodies (about 328 lbs. each) of seed cotton are required to produce 500 lbs. lint, and therefore the average on them of an acre is 125 lbs. of lint!"

The difference between an average outturn per acre of 125 lbs. as here estimated, and 70 lbs. per acre for Tinnevelly, as estimated by the Board, is so ^{enormous} numerous as to lead to the irresistible conclusion that the sources of information from which these official figures are obtained cannot be held reliable, and the Chamber considers that the Board should institute further enquires in order to ascertain the average outturn per acre of the two pickings in the Tinnevelly District.

The Chamber is not in a position to prove that the Board's statistics relating to the volume of the sea-bourne cotton trade are inaccurate but the average annual export of 570,000 cwt. for the quinquennium ending 1896-97 seems suspiciously small considering that according to reliable information supplied to the Chamber by shipping firms, the average exports from Tuticorin alone amount to 80,000 bales of 500 lbs. or 360,000 cwt. The rail-bourne traffic also seems to the Chamber to be underestimated as a large percentage of the western crop, which averages 250,000 cwt. per annum, now finds its way to Bombay principally via Marmagosa.

Lastly, the Chamber regards an allowance of one-third of the outturn for local consumption as inadequate, as the offtake by the mills has increased considerably, an allowance of 40% being, in its opinion, much nearer the mark. Messrs. Lyon & Co. ^{of Bombay,} who are the best authority on Indian Cotton Statistics put down the mill and local consumption for all India during the quinquennium referred to at 1,665,000 bales per annum out of an average total outturn of 2,943,000 bales or say 55 %.

In support of its opinion that the outturn per acre is underestimated by the Board the Chamber would refer to the first forecast of the growing crop recently published, in which the yield is calculated at about 127,000 bales of 400 lbs. Add-

ing to this 10 % for Native States and Zamindaries, as estimated by the Board, the total outturn of next crop would be 152,400 bales of 400 lbs., while according to the figures supplied to the Chamber by press owners and cotton suppliers, an average crop for the Presidency is about 250,000 bales distributed as follows:-

Tinnevelly	80,000 Bales of 500 lbs.	100,000 Bales.
Westerns	80,000	
Northerns	25,000	
Cocanadas	30,000	
Salems, Coimbatore &c.	15,000	
	250,000	

The Chamber is obliged to the Board for adopting

its suggestion as regards giving different units of outturn for the various descriptions of cotton and while it cannot

endorse the Board's views as to outturn it fully appreciates the assistance which the mercantile community will derive

from the publication of reliable figures of the average planted with cotton on Government lands, from which an approximate estimate may be made of the quantity likely to be available for export.

Resolution.

Before submitting the letter read above for the information of Government, in continuation of B P 421, dated 19th November 98, the Board requests that the Chamber may be moved to consider the figures and remarks embodied in these Proceedings.

2. In the subjoined table, the particulars from which the approximate average export by sea of 570,000 cwt. of cleaned cotton was derived are shown, as well as the particulars of exports from the port of Tuticorin, according to the Volume of sea-bourne Trade Statistics, and according to the table given (for calendar years) by the Chamber in its

Price Current & Market Report:-

Description	1892-93	1893-94	1894-95	1895-96	1896-97	Average
For the Presidency.						
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	
<u>Exports.</u>						
Foreign	506,714	519,914	619,551	582,836	515,244	548,900
Coastwise	47,876	39,585	56,649	47,331	33,804	45,000
<u>Imports.</u>						
Coastwise	15,701	22,183	10,304	35,218	41,276	24,900
Foreign	73	645	364	448	508	400
For the port of Tuticorn.						
<u>Exports.</u>						
According to Sea-borne Trade Sta.	334,584	211,646	415,051	359,080	270,701	318,200
Chamber of Commerce price Current.	1892 323,740	1893 189,699	1894 423,175	1895 376,175	1896 268,799	~~316,300~~ 316,300

The two sets of figures relating to Tuticorn agree as nearly as can be expected under the circumstances, and both sets forbid the acceptance of the statement that the average exports from that port amount to 360,000 cwt. per annum.

3. In regard to the rail-borne traffic, the Board regrets to observe that in stating that the average balance of exports during the five years ending in 1896-97 might be put at 46,000 cwt. per annum, it fell into error. It should have been about 9,300 cwt. only. As the gross imports of cotton by rail are always very large, and the exports during 1896-97 were most exceptional, the average result for the five previous years was to show an annual import of about 23,200 cwt. If the figures for the whole period of six years already referred to be taken they show an average annual balance of imports amounting to about 2,800. It is possible that some of the large exports shown as despatched to the port of Bombay may have gone by through booking by rail and steamer via Goa and if the Chamber is used it, enquiry on this point will be addressed to the first for the yield

Examiner

Guaranteed
Examiner of Government Railway Accounts, Bombay, who com-
piles the statistics; the coasting trade returns of the Bom-
bay Presidency, however, show for 1896-97 that only 6,255 cwt.
of cotton were received at Bombay from Goa.

Year	Exports from Madras to						Receipts into Madras from				Balance	
	Bombay Port	Railway	Other	Total	Bombay	Hyderabad	Other	Total	Other	Total	+ or -	
1891-2	19,800	5,794	6,192	31,786	36,421	81,333	7,587	125,341	Indt	Indt	+	82,854
1892-3	17,584	14,847	1,275	33,706	25,553	82,490	7,452	115,511	16	16	+	69,862
1893-4	172,188	6,437	5,414	184,039	57,491	89,036	11,689	158,216	-	-	-	40,206
1894-5	75,553	2,621	1,794	79,968	31,561	68,645	16,848	117,058	4	4	+	18,781
1895-6	54,457	12,522	5,216	72,195	29,668	65,848	22,119	117,639	4	4	+	26,818
1896-7	111,460	1,982	66,913	180,355	22,992	47,035	11,156	81,239	56	56	-	138,742

From the remarks made above, it would appear that the rail-
borne exports may be disregarded and that the Board's estimate
of 805,000 cwt. per annum as a normal crop would really leave
40 % for local consumption.

5. In regard to the amount of cotton used by local mills,
the Board would be glad to receive any definite information
that can be obtained on the subject, but in the absence of any,
it is unable to see the bearing of Messrs. Lyon & Co.'s esti-
mate for all India on the case of the Madras Presidency. The
Board would be obliged if the Chamber would suggest ^{how} ~~new~~ defi-
nite information for a series of years may be obtained on this point, if
it is unable to furnish it from sources of information open to
it. It appears from a table published in the Volume of Finan-
cial and Commercial Statistics of British India issued by the
Government of India, that out of an average of about 427 mil-
lion pounds of yarn spun in Indian mills during 1895-96 & 1896-
97 only a little more than 29 million pounds or less than 7 %
was spun in Madras and ^{how} this should be applied to Messrs.
Lyon & Co.'s estimate of the yield would require a reference
to that estimate, which the Board is unable to make. The figures
quoted, however, if reliable, would point to an even larger con-
sumption of cotton by local mills than is suggested by the Cham-
ber and the Board is very desirous of obtaining an accurate es-
timate on this point.

6. In regard to the quotation made from Dewan Bahadur
S. Srinivasa Raghava Aiyangar's work, it will be pointed out
that the quotation was taken by that officer from a report
published by this Department in 1891 (Bulletin No. 19 page 125)
and attention should be specially given to the note made on that
portion of the report at the time. The Board is not disposed to
attach any great importance to the outturn estimated by the
reporter. It would also remark that the carrying out of experi-
ments, such as the Chamber suggests, should be made to determine
the average yield of cotton is, for all practical purposes, an
impossibility. Not two, but twenty or more pickings are com-
monly made in Tinnevely and before any average could be fixed,
it would be necessary to carry out several hundred experiments

in

in order they might embrace crops grown on soils of different PARTMENT.
qualities, under varying circumstances and during different
seasons.

7. With regard to the first forecast of outturn, allw-
ded to at para 4 of the letter read above, the Board is una-
ble to see what bearing the assumed amount of a normal or a-
verage crop has thereon unless allowance be made for the
marked decrease in the area sown this year and the condition
in which the crop was reported to be at the time the forecast
was prepared. It may also be pointed out that the amount of
a normal crop is now reported to be about 893,000 cwt. a-
gainst 1,238,000 cwt. at the rates proposed by the Chamber
in its letter dated 19th September 98, whilst as regards the
Western crop, which in this para is estimated at 80,000 ba-
les (400 lbs.), in para 2 of the letter, it is said to be only
70,000 bales. These figures cannot all of them, the Board
considers, be correct.

8. As the Board is most anxious to arrive at some
definite understanding as to what should be looked upon as
the normal production of cotton in this Presidency excluding
the production of tracts in Mysore and Hyderabad, which may
in trade parlance be combined therewith, it trusts that the
Chamber may submit the data given in these Proceedings to
criticism and furnish, where no information is available at
present (vide para 4 supra), any that is obtainable.

(True Extract)

(Signed) C. Benson,

For Secretary.

To

The Chairman, Chamber of Commerce.

(True Copy)

R. S. Srinivasa
Secretary.

Forecast of Outturn of Cotton
in Native States.

No. 1340 From the Board of Rev (RS, LRS) No. 993, dated 16-2-1899.

" " " " 189
" " " " 189
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In Order

B. Please see G.O. No 146 Pol by 14-2-99

which Rev G.O. No 63 d/23-1-99 was Comm^d to the Dist L & C

& to all Pol Agents. This order

requested the Agents to obtain from the respective States under their supervision, & submit annually to the Board

of Rev, such statistics as may be available regarding the area

under Cotton together with any

estimate of the out-turn that

might seem reasonably trustworthy

2. Rev now refers to this Dept for acceptance a Bft order app

ing a suggestion of the Board that

of Native States quoted

to obtain reports in the prescribed

form "B" laid down in B.O. print

ed in G.O. No 3120 Rev d/5-8-96

Bangalore & Sandur

Principal Officer

A

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of 8

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1899
REVENUE DEPT.

Encl. No. 1
No. 1340

Secure their submissions to
 the Board by Feb 1st each year
 3. It is sub^d that there is
 no objection to the Dft Order, (on docket of Ct)
~~which has been~~
 in this Dept. -

SWB. Cured
 7/3/59 8. 3/4 M. J. M. J.

Revenue Dept.

To Under Secretary

The Political Dept.
 takes no objection to the draft
 order, submitted that it may
 now issue.

Yrs. smc
 6/15/3
 3/99

When given for copying
 When copied
 When examined
 When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

, DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPER NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

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