Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1488

DATED 22nd April 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Communicating to the Bd. of Rev. Resolution of the Govt of India reviewing the annual report on the working of the Cotton Duties Act during the year 1897–98.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

10/8 4,000—18-10-98.

Revenue (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2263.

Ltr dt. 22/4/99

From The Govt of India,
Fin & Com-

Order mis. No. 1488 dt 22nd April 99

Communicated to the
Board of Revenue.

No. 1403. S.R.

Dated 25th March.
Received 31st "
Registered 1st April.
Enclosures —
Spare copies. 7.

To
The Board of Revenue (S.R.)
Dispd 27.4.99

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SUBJECT.

Reviewing the annual Report on the working of the Cotton duties Act during the year 1898-99.

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Mis	3303	Rev	10.8.98
Mis	3205	Rev	2.8.98
Mis	5087	Rev	17.12.95

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 1403 S. R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

SEPARATE REVENUE.
Cotton Duties.

RESOLUTION.

Calcutta, the 25th March 1899.

READ—

Resolution in the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 5612 S. R., dated the 3rd December 1895, directing that an annual report on the working of the Cotton Duties Act should be compiled in every province in which there are cotton mills. under G.O. 5087 17.12.95

Read also the following communications forwarding reports on the working of the Act for the year 1897-98:—

Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara, No. 700—959, dated the 27th June 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 95 T. F., dated the 2nd July 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 200, dated the 7th July 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue, Madras, No. 209, dated the 18th July 1898, and enclosures. under G.O. 3303 10.8.98

Letter from the Government of the Punjab, No. 611 S., dated the 21st July 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, No. 217, dated the 15th August 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 2971, dated the 24th August 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 6563, dated the 13th October 1898, and enclosures.

Letter in the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 5285 S. R., dated the 28th November 1898.

Letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 7875, dated the 6th December 1898, and enclosures.

Letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 8039, dated the 13th December 1898.

Letter in the Finance and Commerce Department, No. 186 S. R., dated the 12th January 1899.

Letter from the Government of Bombay, No. 769, dated the 31st January 1899, and enclosures.

RESOLUTION.—The number of cotton mills in the several provinces during each of the years 1895-96, 1896-97 and 1897-98 was :—

	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
Madras	12	12	12
Bombay	96	102	108
Bengal	9	9	9
North-Western Provinces and Oudh . .	5	6	6
Punjab	3	4	4
Central Provinces	5	5	5
Berar	1	1	1
Ajmere-Merwara	1	1	1

Except in Bombay, the number of mills in all the provinces was, during the year 1897-98, the same as in 1896-97. Of the 108 mills in Bombay, one remained closed throughout the year.

2. The production of yarn in the mills in each of the provinces during the last three years was as follows :—

		No. 20 and lower counts.	Counts above 20.	TOTAL.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras . .	1895-96 . .	27,641,085	1,312,075	28,953,160
	1896-97 . .	26,180,993	3,138,333	29,319,326
	1897-98 . .	29,073,750	3,441,712	32,515,462
Bombay . .	1895-96 . .	283,025,279	37,359,419	320,384,698
	1896-97 . .	256,157,728	46,137,235	302,294,963
	1897-98 . .	271,430,889	53,218,295	324,649,184
Bengal . .	1895-96 . .	37,710,056	682,500	38,392,556
	1896-97 . .	40,752,782	1,354,211	42,106,993
	1897-98 . .	43,867,711	938,914	44,806,625
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	1895-96 . .	18,694,916	280,941	18,975,857
	1896-97 . .	20,377,690	815,322	21,193,012
	1897-98 . .	24,823,091	580,721	25,403,812
Punjab . .	1895-96 . .	4,115,937	245,078	4,361,015
	1896-97 . .	5,083,191	231,643	5,314,834
	1897-98 . .	6,393,235	213,684	6,606,919
Central Provinces	1895-96 . .	16,442,084	217,370	16,659,454
	1896-97 . .	14,802,956	2,808,855	17,611,811
	1897-98 . .	17,096,802	2,689,267	19,786,069
Berar . . .	1895-96 . .	1,627,811	252,307	1,880,118
	1896-97 . .	1,905,067	438,432	2,343,499
	1897-98 . .	1,732,127	566,640	2,298,767
Ajmere-Merwara .	1895-96 . .	1,236,516	172,899	1,409,415
	1896-97 . .	1,183,389	172,072	1,355,461
	1897-98 . .	1,176,036	167,010	1,343,046
TOTAL .	1895-96 . .	390,493,684	40,522,589	431,016,273
	1896-97 . .	366,443,796	55,096,103	421,539,899
	1897-98 . .	395,593,641	61,816,243	457,409,884

In Berar and Ajmere-Merwara the production shows a slight falling-off, but in all the other provinces there was a satisfactory increase, especially in Bombay, where it amounted to 7 per cent. Of the total quantity of yarn produced in all the mills, Bombay contributed nearly 71 per cent, Bengal 9 per cent, Madras 7 per cent, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh 5 per cent, the Central Provinces 4 per cent and the Punjab 1½ per cent. The general result for all the provinces is an increase of 8 per cent as compared with a decrease of 2 per cent in the year 1896-97.

In 1897-98 yarn of counts higher than 20 formed in Madras 10 per cent of the whole, in Bombay 16 per cent, in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh each 2 per cent, in the Punjab 3 per cent, in the Central Provinces 13 per cent, in Berar 24 per cent, and in Ajmere-Merwara 12 per cent. Such counts show an increase only in Madras, Bombay, and Berar: elsewhere they have declined. In Bengal, where the falling off in the finer counts is most marked, it is attributed to the inability of the local mills to compete with the Bombay mills, which use a better class of raw cotton than can be procured in Bengal. In Bombay, on the other hand, while the outturn of counts over 20 has increased in the aggregate, the production of the finer counts between 41 and 80 has declined because, as is explained in the Assistant Collector's Report, "The ambition to weave fine dhotis and mulls with profit against Lancashire has not died out, but has preferred the line of importing English yarn rather than raw Egyptian or American cotton."

3. The quantity of woven goods produced during each of the years 1896-97 and 1897-98 was as follows :—

	GREY GOODS.		OTHER GOODS.		TOTAL.	
	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Madras . .	4,897,099	4,192,509	388,070	1,128,274	5,285,169	5,320,783
Bombay . .	60,647,787	67,174,305	6,375,979	6,307,261	67,023,766	73,481,566
Bengal . . .	277,305	53,668	4,966	9,598	282,271	63,266
North-Western Provinces and Oudh .	2,442,413	2,418,413	23,757	27,829	2,466,170	2,446,242
Punjab . .	873,146	1,007,518	...	13	873,146	1,007,531
Central Provinces .	3,990,849	4,674,361	1,071,033	641,687	5,061,882	5,316,548
Berar . . .	906,476	1,134,512	...	424	906,476	1,134,936
Ajmere-Merwara .	422,654	596,750	...	...	422,654	596,750
TOTAL .	74,457,729	81,252,536	7,863,805	8,115,086	82,321,534	89,367,622

As compared with 1896-97 there was a falling-off in the production of grey goods in Madras, Bengal, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh; while in Bombay, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Berar, and Ajmere-Merwara there was an increase, the percentages of increase being, in Bombay nearly 11 per cent, in the Punjab 15 per cent, in the Central Provinces 17 per cent, in Berar 25 per cent and in Ajmere-Merwara 41 per cent. There was an increase in the production of woven goods, other than grey goods, in Madras, Bengal, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, but a decrease in Bombay, and the Central Provinces; in the Punjab and Berar the quantity produced was very small, and in Ajmere-Merwara the production was confined to grey goods.

Of the total quantity of woven goods produced in the Indian mills, Bombay produced 82 per cent, Madras and the Central Provinces each about 6 per cent, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh nearly 3 per cent; while in the mills in the other provinces little weaving was done. Grey goods formed 91 per cent of the whole production. It was only in Madras, Bombay, and the Central Provinces that any material proportion of the weaving consisted of white and coloured goods.

4. The excise revenue realised during each of the years 1896-97 and 1897-98 was as shown below :—

	1896-97.	1897-98.	Percentage of increase + or decrease —.
	R	R	
Madras	56,295	66,474	+18·08
Bombay	8,89,672	9,38,453	+5·48
Bengal	4,480	1,181	—73·63
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	39,118	35,752	—8·6
Punjab	13,047	14,525	+11·33
Central Provinces . . .	88,985	74,815	—15·92
Berar	14,050	18,753	+33·47
Ajmere-Merwara . . .	6,773	8,602	+27
TOTAL .	11,12,420	11,58,555	+4·14

5. The working of the Cotton Duties Act and the rules thereunder in all the provinces continued to be satisfactory. The Governor General in Council notices with pleasure that the returns prescribed by that Act were regularly furnished, and that the duty was collected without any difficulty.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab; to the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces and Ajmere-Merwara; and to the Resident at Hyderabad, for information.

H. H. Risley

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Finance and Commerce Department.

SEPARATE REVENUE.
Cotton Duties.

RESOLUTION.

To

THE GOVERNMENTS OF MADRAS, BOMBAY, BENGAL, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH, AND THE PUNJAB.
„ CHIEF COMMISSIONERS, CENTRAL PROVINCES AND AJMERE-MERWARA.
„ RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD.

No. 1403 S. R.

Dated Calcutta, the 25th March 1899.

Review of the annual reports on the working of the Cotton Duties Act during the year 1897-98.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 953 F. & C. D.—2-53-99.—250.—B. N. D

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